

MARVEL[®]
COMICS



X-TINCTION AGENDA

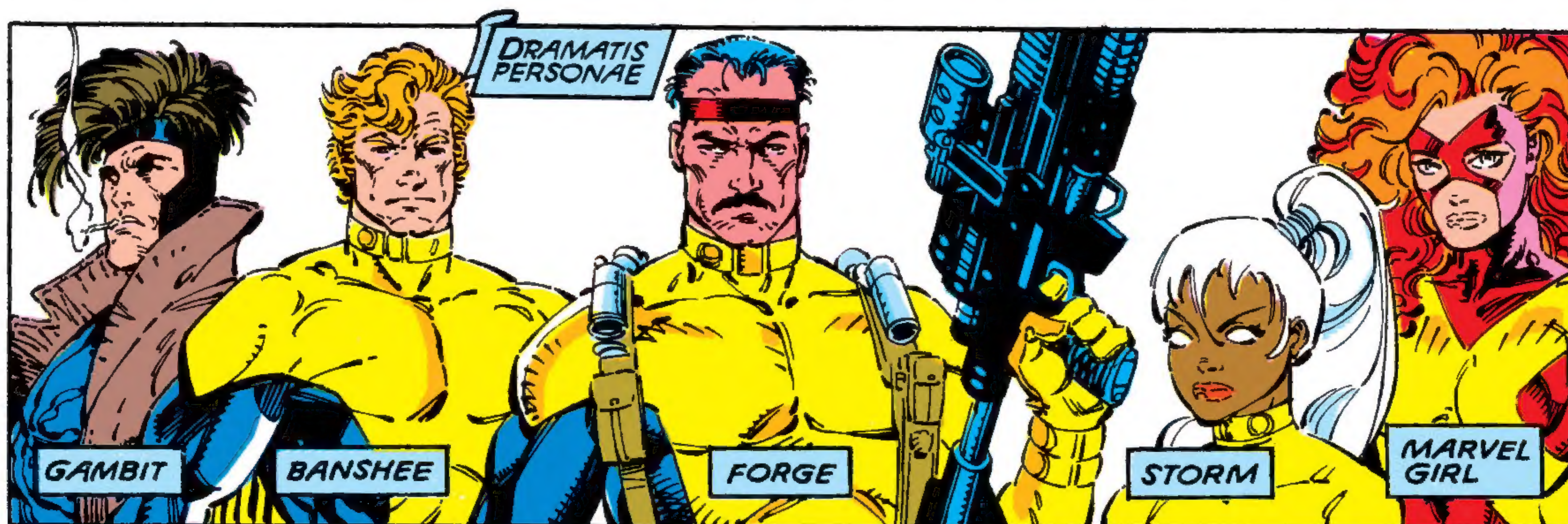
PART 1

X-MEN[®]

1.00 US
\$1.25 CAN
270
NOV
© 02461

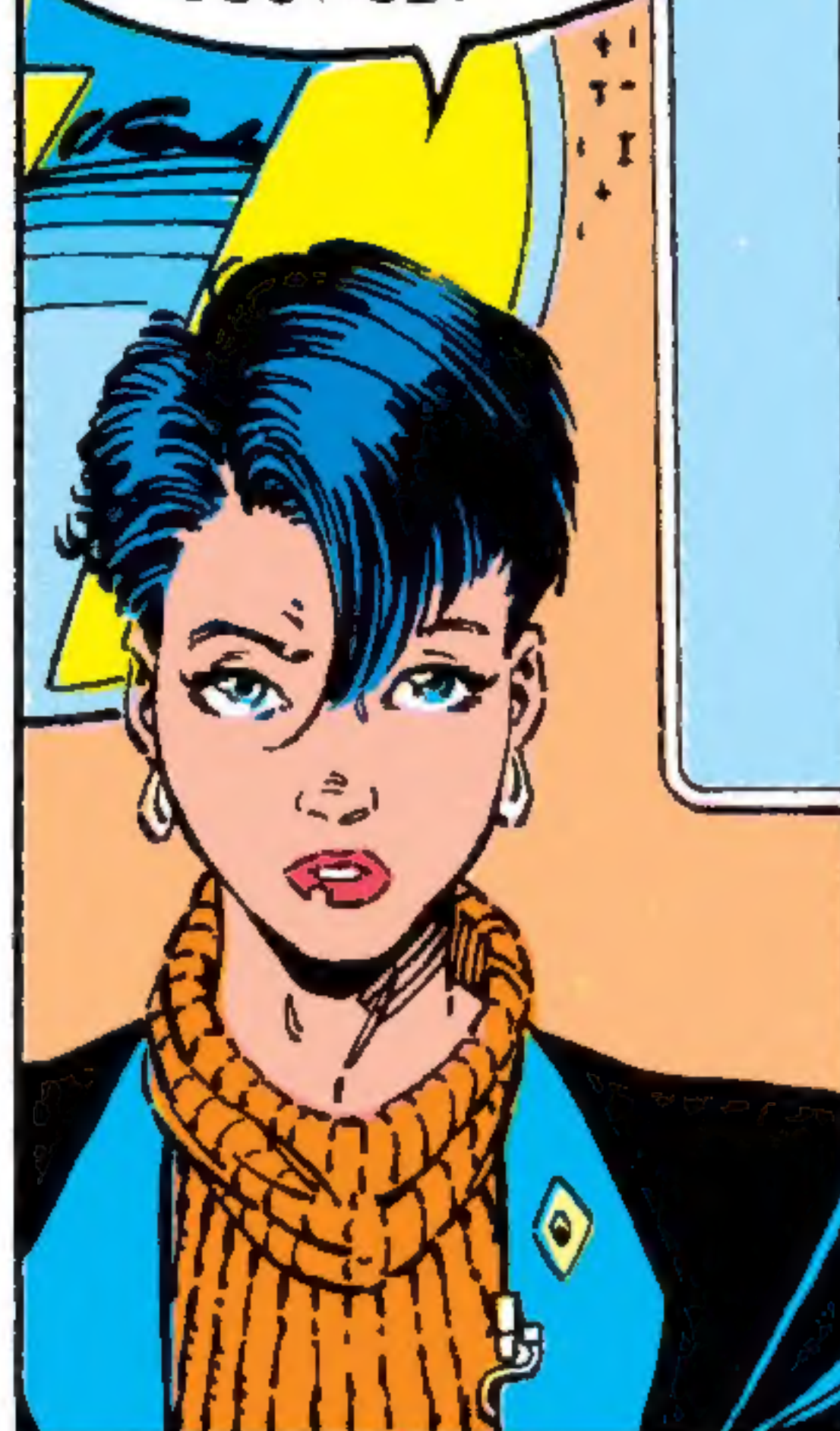
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

FIRST STRIKE



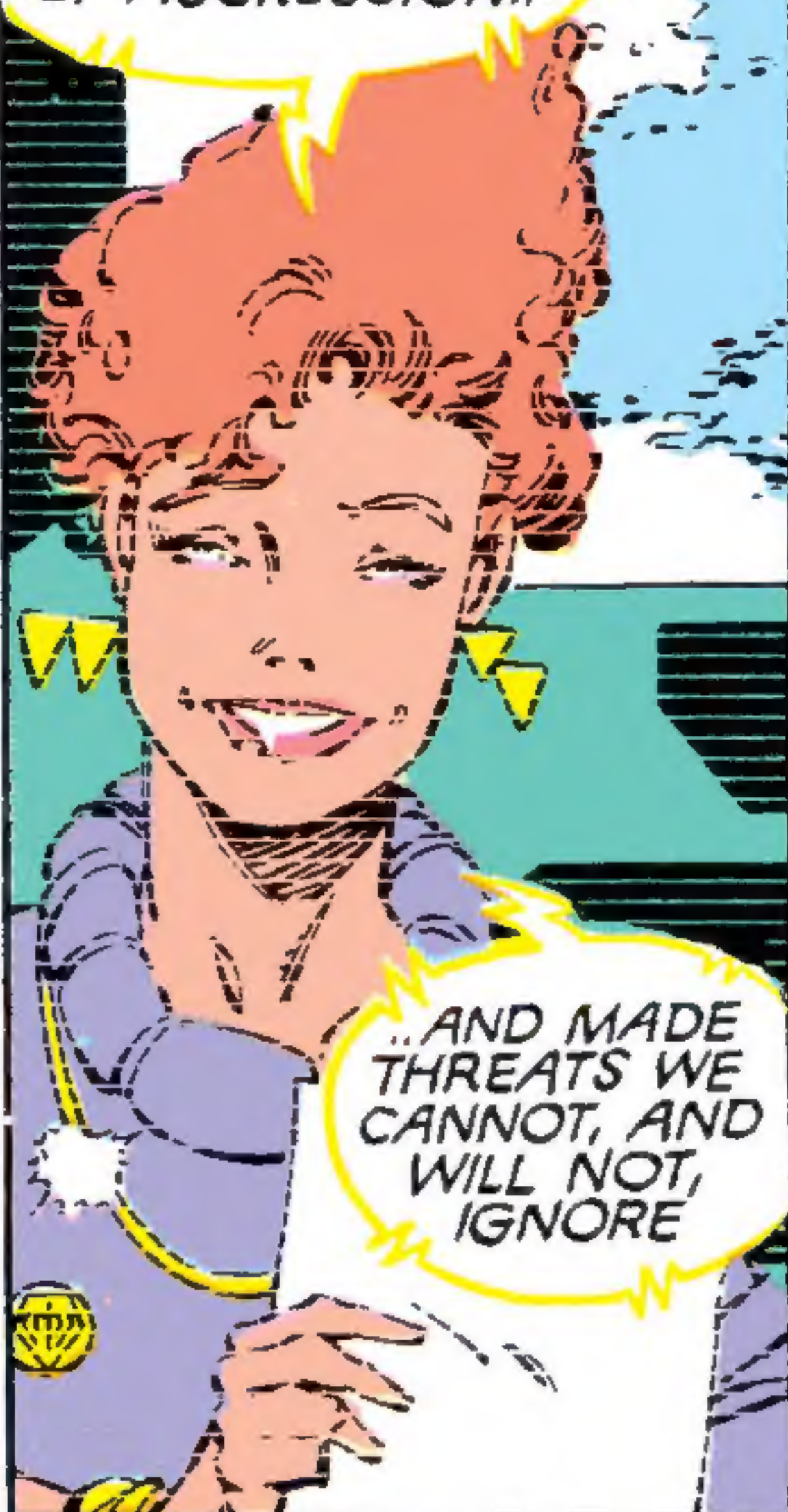
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EAST AFRICAN ISLAND REPUBLIC OF **GENOSHA** REMAIN STRAINED...

...WITH THE GENOSHAN GOVERNMENT REFUSING TO BACK DOWN FROM ITS STATED POLICY OF TAKING WHATEVER STEPS PROVE NECESSARY TO BRING SO-CALLED "MUTANT TERRORISTS" TO JUSTICE.



WE ARE A SOVEREIGN STATE, WITH THE SAME RIGHT TO PROTECT ITSELF AND ITS CITIZENRY AS ANY OTHER NATION

THESE "X-MEN"-- HOWEVER HIGHLY THEY MAY BE REGARDED ELSEWHERE-- HAVE COMMITTED ACTS OF AGGRESSION...



...AND MADE THREATS WE CANNOT, AND WILL NOT, IGNORE

OF COURSE, WE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE THE COOPERATION OF OTHERS, ESPECIALLY SUCH A VALUED ALLY AS THE UNITED STATES, BUT SHOULD CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE--



-- IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD OUR PEOPLE--

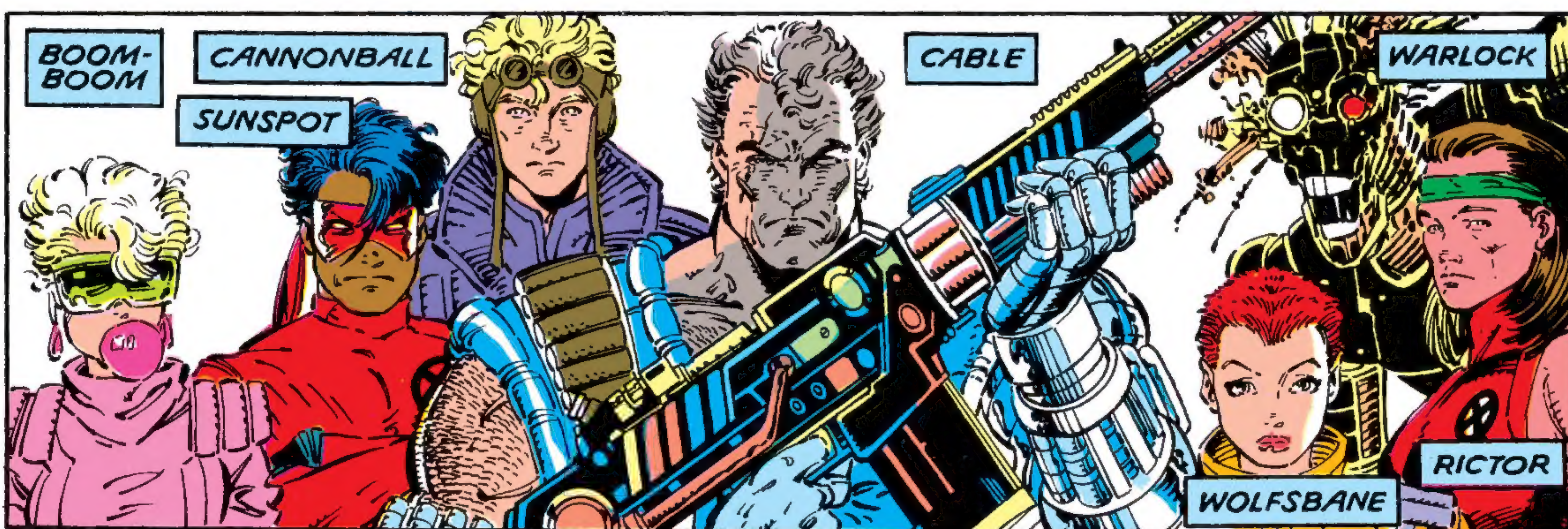
-- WE ARE MORE THAN READY TO ACT ALONE.

WHAT THOSE "ACTIONS" MAY BE, THE GENOSHANS WILL NOT SAY. IN WASHINGTON, THE ADMINISTRATION HAD NO FURTHER COMMENT.

ALL ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT THE MUTANT TEAM, **X-FACTOR**, FOR THEIR VIEW OF THIS DEVELOPING SITUATION HAVE LIKEWISE PROVED FRUITLESS.



THIS IS **TRISH TILBY**, WARC-TV NEWS REPORTING.



CHRIS CLAREMONT
WRITER

JIM LEE
PENCILER

ART THIBERT
SCOTT WILLIAMS
INKERS

TASK FORCE "X" LETTERERS
GLYNIS OLIVER, COLORIST

BOB HARRAS
EDITOR

TOM DeFALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

THE X-TINCTION AGENDA: FIRST STRIKE

A STAN LEE PRESENTATION, STARRING THE UNCANNY X-MEN

PROFESSOR XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS-- SALEM CENTER, NEW YORK.

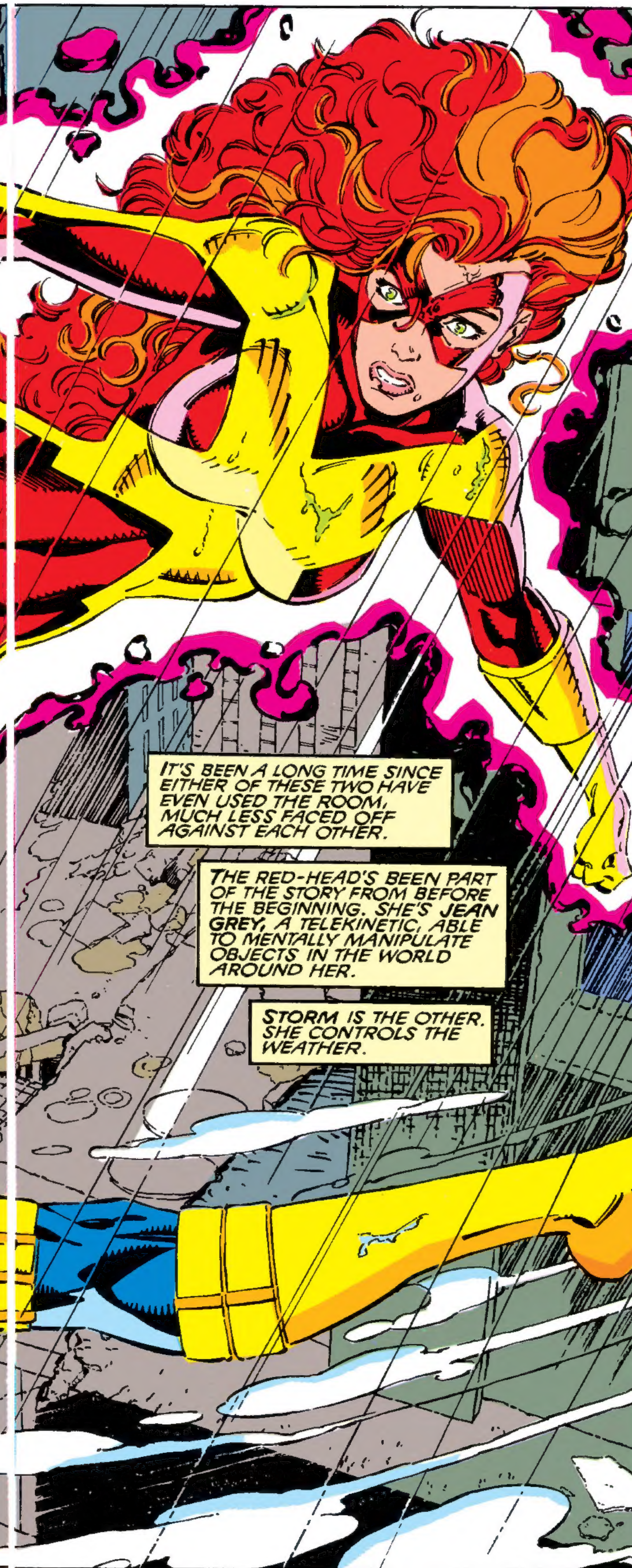
THIS IS THE DANGER ROOM--THE HEART OF THE UNDERGROUND COMPLEX BURIED BENEATH THE SCHOOL, WHERE XAVIER'S STUDENTS-- PAST AND PRESENT-- HONE THE USE OF THEIR VARIOUS PARA-HUMAN POWERS.



IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE EITHER OF THESE TWO HAVE EVEN USED THE ROOM, MUCH LESS FACED OFF AGAINST EACH OTHER.

THE RED-HEAD'S BEEN PART OF THE STORY FROM BEFORE THE BEGINNING. SHE'S JEAN GREY, A TELEKINETIC, ABLE TO MENTALLY MANIPULATE OBJECTS IN THE WORLD AROUND HER.

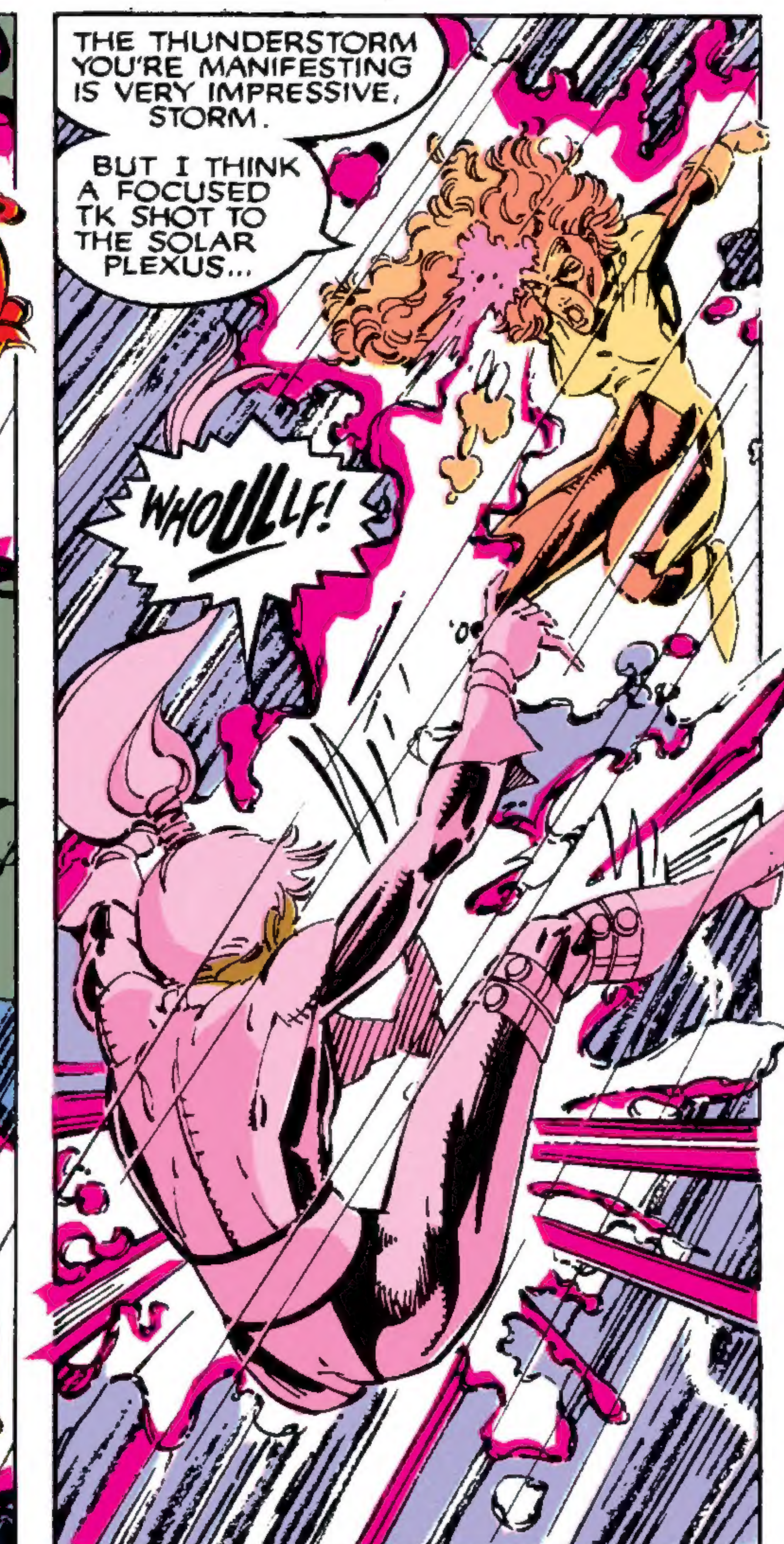
STORM IS THE OTHER. SHE CONTROLS THE WEATHER.



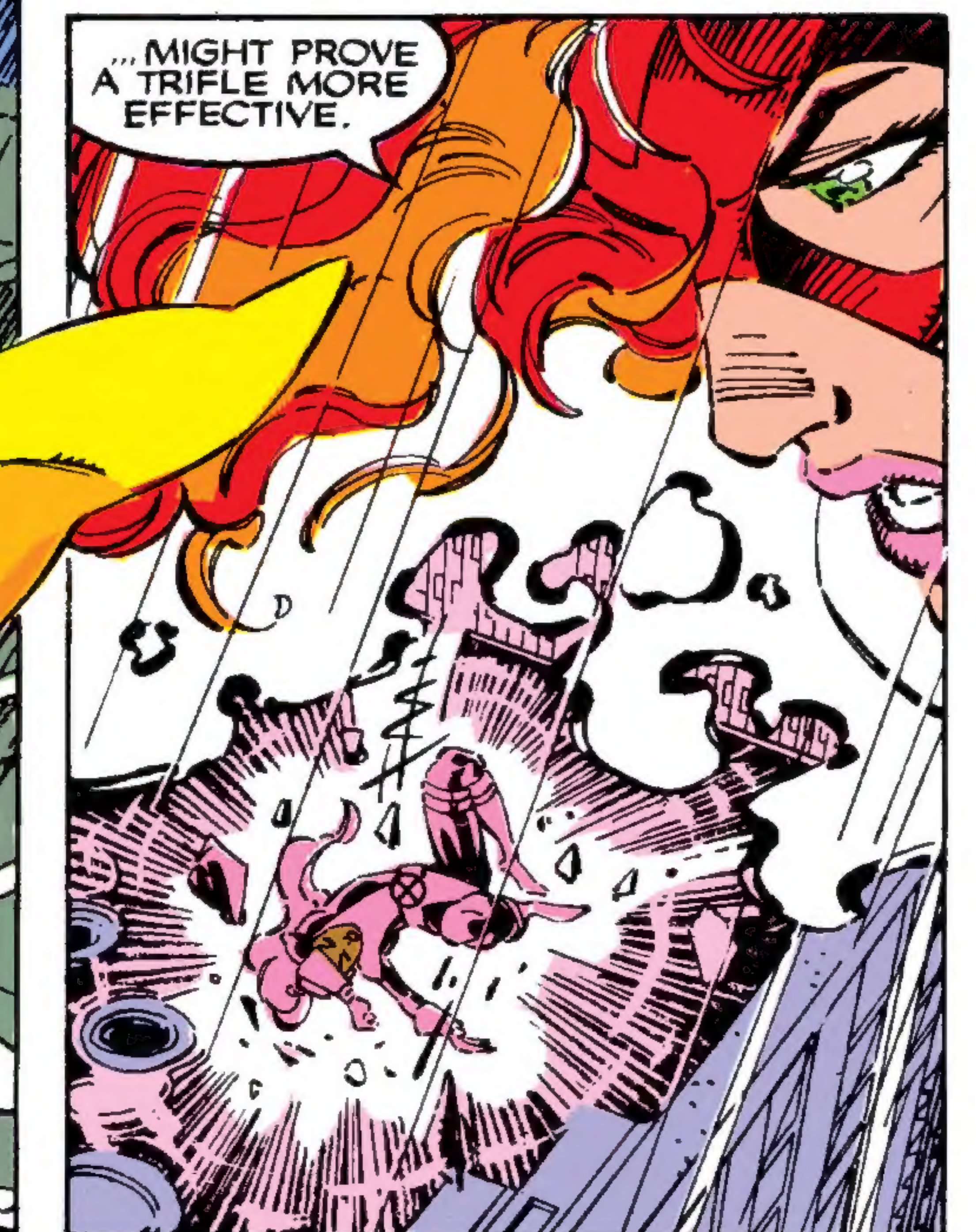
THE THUNDERSTORM YOU'RE MANIFESTING IS VERY IMPRESSIVE, STORM.

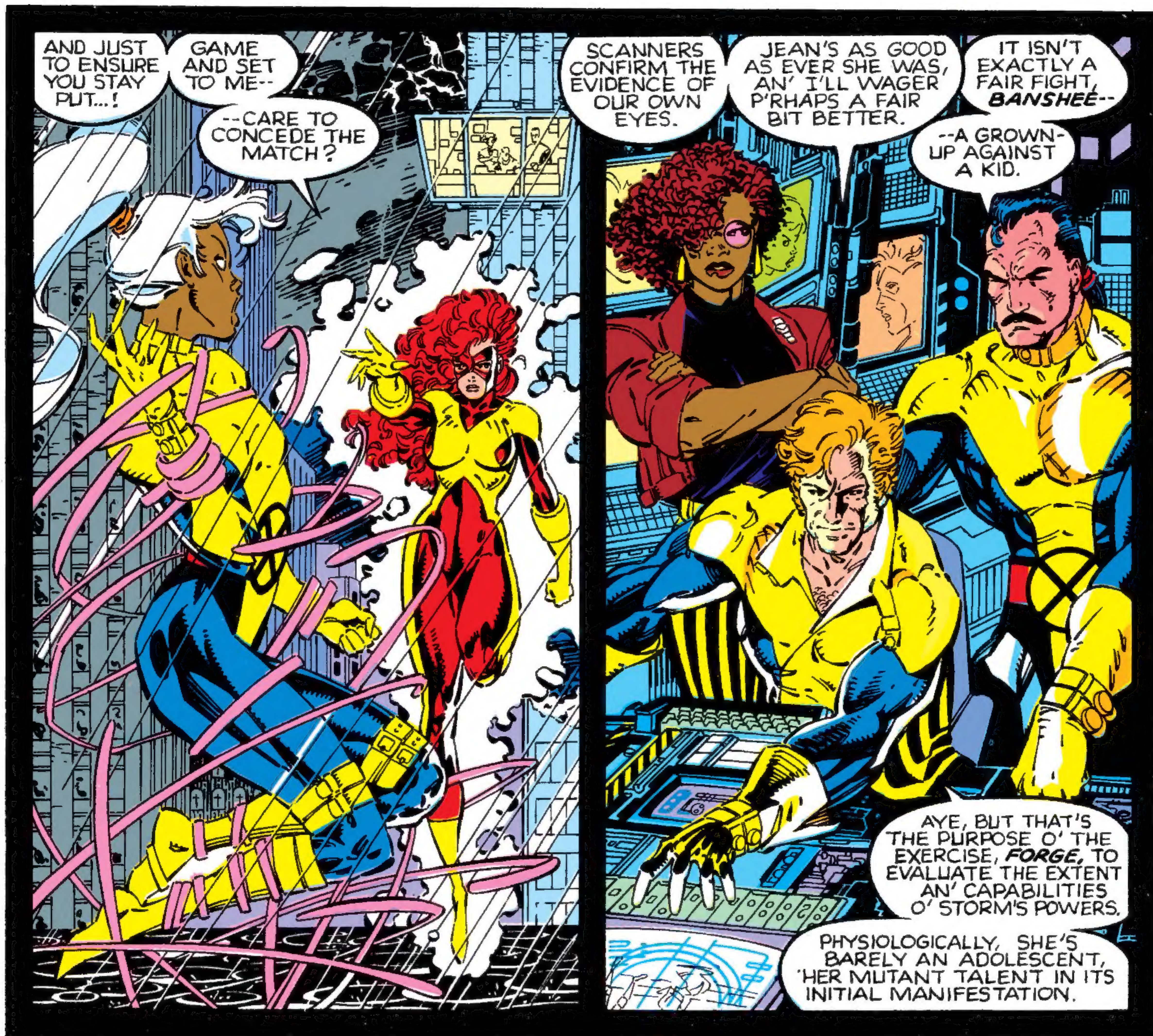
BUT I THINK A FOCUSED TK SHOT TO THE SOLAR PLEXUS...

WHOO!LF!



...MIGHT PROVE A TRIFLE MORE EFFECTIVE.





AND JUST TO ENSURE YOU STAY PUT...!

GAME AND SET TO ME--

--CARE TO CONCEDE THE MATCH?

SCANNERS CONFIRM THE EVIDENCE OF OUR OWN EYES.

JEAN'S AS GOOD AS EVER SHE WAS, AN' I'LL WAGER P'RHAPS A FAIR BIT BETTER.

IT ISN'T EXACTLY A FAIR FIGHT, **BANSHEE**--

--A GROWN-UP AGAINST A KID.

AYE, BUT THAT'S THE PURPOSE O' THE EXERCISE, **FORGE**, TO EVALUATE THE EXTENT AN' CAPABILITIES O' STORM'S POWERS.

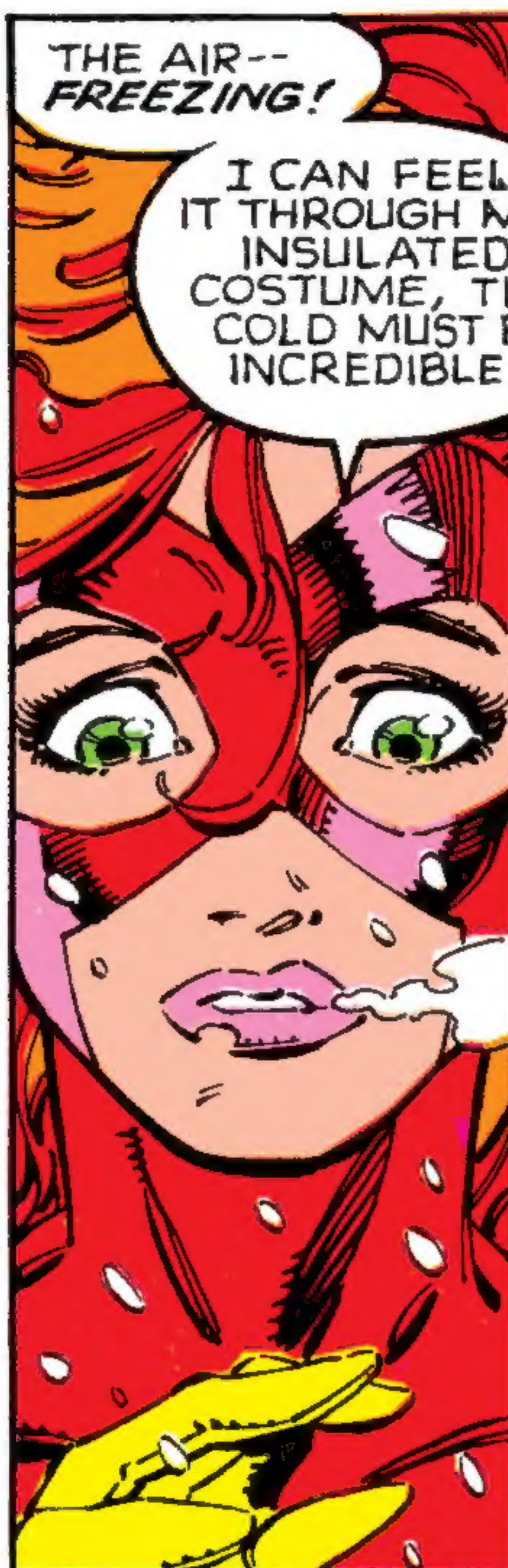
PHYSIOLOGICALLY, SHE'S BARELY AN ADOLESCENT, 'HER MUTANT TALENT IN ITS INITIAL MANIFESTATION.



"WE--AN' SHE--HAVE T' KNOW WHAT SHE'S GOT AN' HOW WELL SHE CAN DEPEND ON IT. ESPECIALLY IF SHE MEANS T' CONTINUE LEADIN' THE **X-MEN**."

HAD ENOUGH?

QUITE THE CONTRARY.



THE AIR--**FREEZING!**

I CAN FEEL IT THROUGH MY INSULATED COSTUME, THE COLD MUST BE INCREDIBLE!



I HAVE BARELY BEGUN.



WAVE GOOD-BYE, JEAN.

AND HAPPY LANDINGS!

YOU WONDERED BEFORE ABOUT ALL THAT RAIN.

THANKS TO THIS FLASH-FREEZE, NOW IT'S ICE.

FRIGHTFULLY SLIPPERY.

OH?!?

ESPECIALLY ONCE I THROW IN A PROPER GUST OF WIND...

OH!?!

...TO HELP YOU ON YOUR WAY.

A DISADVANTAGE OF TELEKINESIS...

...IS THAT YOU NEED TO FOCUS YOUR CONCENTRATION TO USE IT.

I NO LONGER INTEND TO ALLOW YOU THAT OPPORTUNITY.

YOU WERE SAYING, PAL?

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT'S DUE, FORGE.

THAT WITCH **NANNY** MAY'VE REGRESSED STORM'S BODY TO CHILDHOOD...*

...BUT MENTALLY, SHE'S LOST NONE OF HER SKILL OR INTELLIGENCE. AN', I SUSPECT, SHE'S GROWN A WHOLE LOT SNEAKIER.

PROBABLY THE INFLUENCE OF THAT SO-CALLED PARTNER OF HERS, **GAMBIT**.

MAY WELL BE.

I HATE TO BURST YOUR COLLECTIVE, CONGRATULATIVE BUBBLE, BOYS-- BUT YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT.

*AS RELATED IN X-MEN #267--BH

AS YOU YOURSELF SAID, BANSHEE, PHYSICALLY SHE'S A YOUNGSTER. HER BODY'S STILL GROWING.

TOO MUCH OF THE WRONG KIND OF STRESS-- LIKE PUSHING HER ELEMENTAL POWERS BEYOND THEIR LIMIT--

*LAST SEEN IN--UM, EVEN WE CAN'T REMEMBER!

--COULD CAUSE PERMANENT INJURY.

I THINK, MS. HUNTER,* STORM'S WELL AWARE OF HER LIMITATIONS.

THIS IS RICTOR, REQUESTING ACCESS TO THE DANGER ROOM.

ADULT KNOWLEDGE, FORGE, OF AN ADULT INSTRUMENT.

BUT HER CURRENT REALITY IS THAT OF A CHILD!

WE'RE RUNNING AN EVALUATION SEQUENCE, LAD.

I'M SORRY, BUT YE'LL HAVE T' WAIT.

DANGER ROOM SEQUENCE ACTIVATE RUNNING ENTRY PP

HEY SURE WHY NOT NO PROBLEM. I MEAN, IT'S ONLY OUR HOUSE.

"STORM'S GOT HER-- WAY TO GO, GIRL--"

--WITH A CYCLONIC WHIRLWIND THAT'S SPINNING MARVEL GIRL SO HARD AND FAST, SHE HASN'T A CLUE WHICH END IS UP!

ENOUGH!

SHE'S USING TOO MUCH POWER, SPINNING JEAN TOO FAST!

DANGER ROUTINE SCENARIO 707 DISEN

HER BODY HASN'T THE RESOURCES TO HANDLE THAT KIND OF LOAD--

--SHE'S LOSING CONTROL!

STEVIE, THERE WAS NO NEED T' CANCEL THE SESSION.

THERE WAS EVERY NEED!

TRUST ME, SEAN. PROFESSOR XAVIER MADE ME RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PHYSICAL CONDITIONING OF HIS STUDENTS, I KNOW WHEN THEY'VE PUSHED THEMSELVES PAST THE POINT OF EXHAUSTION--

--LOOK! SHE'S FALLING!

NOT TO WORRY, STEVIE. I HAVE HER.

COULDN'T STAY ALOFT...

...BODY FELT TURNED TO LEAD...

...COULDN'T FORM A WIND TO HOLD ME.

SORRY ABOUT THAT WILD RIDE.

I FEAR I GOT A TRIFLE CARRIED AWAY.

ACTUALLY, IT WAS KINDA FUN.

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO READ YOU THE *RIOT ACT*, STORM, BEFORE YOU LISTEN?

YOU WANT TO BE LIKE THOSE BABIES ON THE PRO TENNIS TOUR...

...CHAMPIONS ONE YEAR, HAS-BEENS THE NEXT, BECAUSE THEIR STILL-DEVELOPING BODIES COULDN'T HACK THE STRAIN.

THIS IS NOT A GAME, STEVIE.

ALL THE MORE REASON TO TAKE CARE!

ALL THOSE KIDS RISK IS A CAREER.

YOU COULD LOSE YOUR LIFE--?!?

IT'S TIME FOR THE **NEW MUTANTS'** WORKOUT.

SO COULD EVERYONE ELSE PLEASE **VACATE** THE PREMISES. **NOW!**

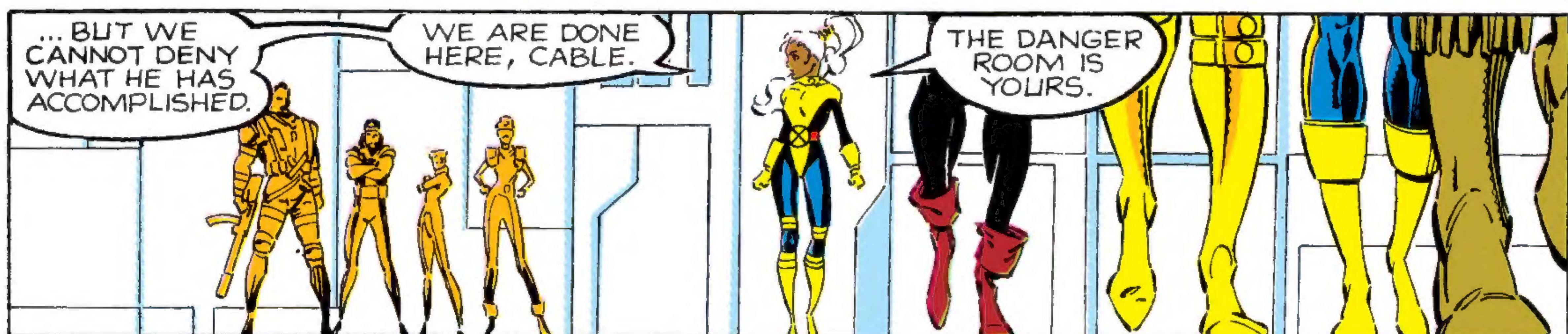
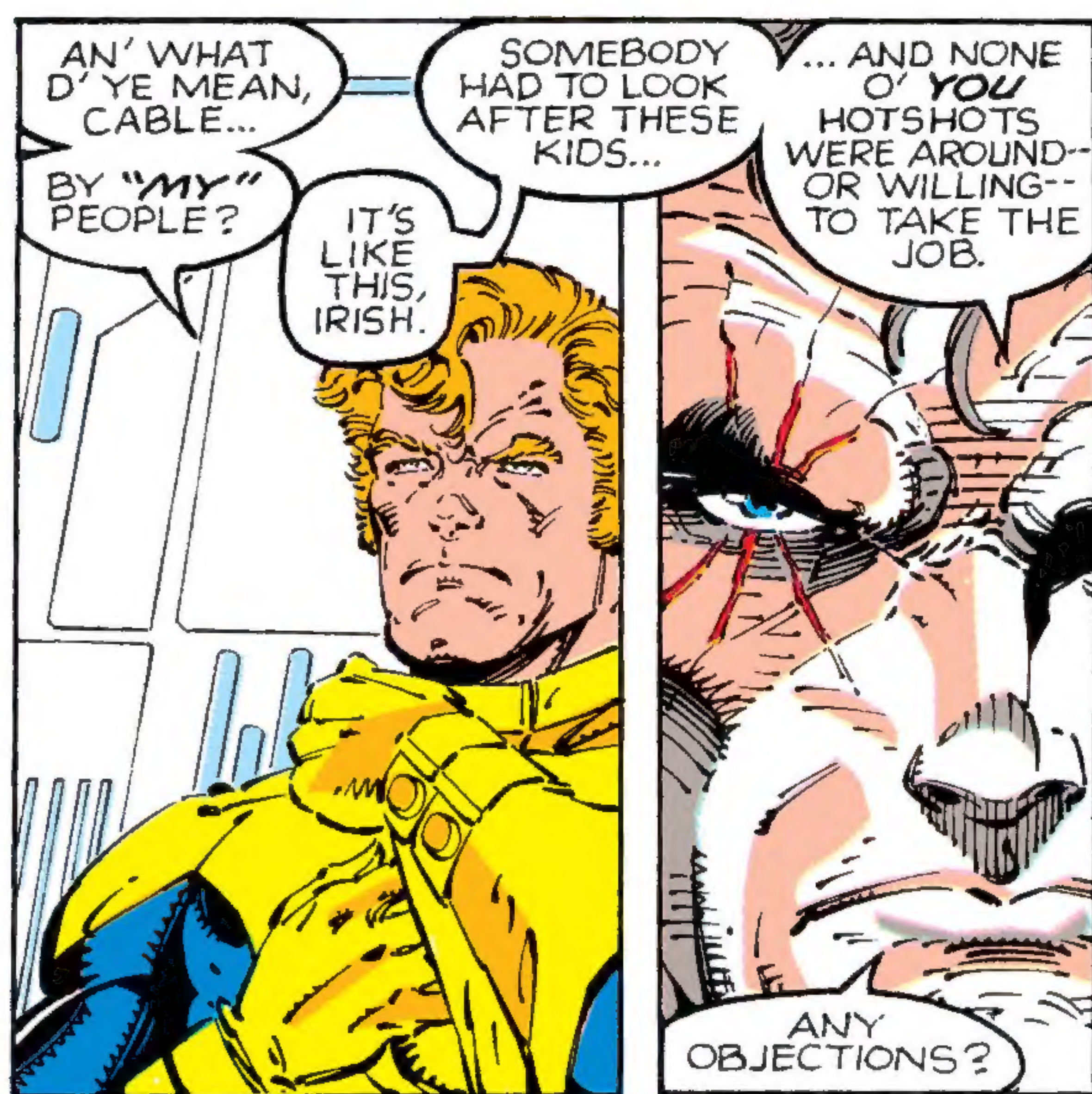
THAT'S TELLIN' EM, BOSS!

"I SAW NO MENTION O' THAT WHEN I REVIEWED THE COMPUTER SCHEDULE."

MY PEOPLE KNOW THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES, BANSHEE. THEY DON'T NEED ANY "MICKEY MOUSE" SCHEDULES.

GOOD F'R THEM. AN THAT MAY WORK FINE WHEN YE'RE HERE ON YER OWN, **CABLE...**

...BUT NOW THE X-MEN ARE BACK IN RESIDENCE, YE'VE OTHERS T' CONSIDER.



MALIBU, CALIFORNIA-- LILA CHENEY'S BEACHFRONT HOUSE...

FUDDA LAS' TIME STANACHEK, ALISON BLAIRE DON'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

WHUZZAMATTA? DON'T CHU UNUNDERSTAN' PLAIN ENGLISH?

SHE'S GONE. SPLIT, VAMOOSED, HIT THE ROAD.

GONE WHERE?

WHAT AM I, HER TRAVEL AGENT?

THE LADY WANTED HER ITINERARY MADE PUBLIC, SHE'D'A LEFT WOID.

SINCE SHE DID NOT, SHE MUST OBVIOUSLY PREFER SOLITUDE, AM I RIGHT?

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, MAN.

I DEMAND TO SEE FOR MYSELF.

NOTTA CHANCE.

SHE CAN'T DO THIS! ESPECIALLY TO ME!!

HER MOVIE'S TOP OF THE CHARTS, SHE CAN'T WALK OUT ON THAT KIND OF SUCCESS! AFTER ALL THE WORK PUT INTO THE PROJECT-- SHE OWES ME!

FREDDIE, YOU WUZ A NICE KID BEFORE.

NOW YOU GOTTA SERIOUSLY TERMINAL ATTITUDE.

FACT IS, THE LADY DIDN'T WANT 'CHER HELP, OR ASK FOR IT.

AN' YOU SURE AIN'T SUFFERIN' CAUSE 'A WHAT 'CHU DID, AM I RIGHT?

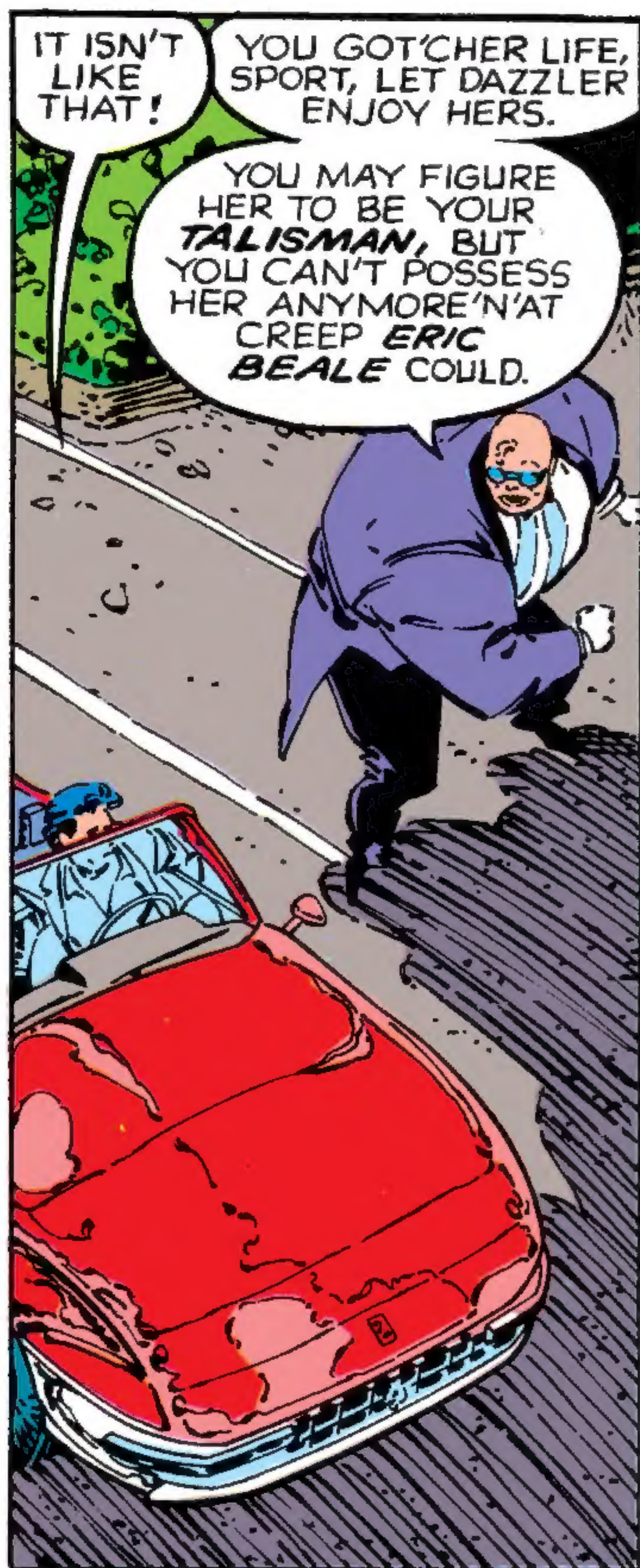
ITALIAN SUITS, ITALIAN CARS, MAJOR PRODUCTION DEALS UP THE WAZOO.

SITTIN' IN THE CAT-BIRD SEAT, MY MAN.

MOST'D BE SATISFIED WIDDA FRACTION O' THAT.

BUT NNNNOOOO

YOU GOTTA HAVE YERSELF A TROPHY-BABE!



IT ISN'T LIKE THAT!

YOU GOT'CHER LIFE, SPORT, LET DAZZLER ENJOY HERS.

YOU MAY FIGURE HER TO BE YOUR **TALISMAN**, BUT YOU CAN'T POSSESS HER ANYMORE'N'AT CREEP **ERIC BEALE** COULD.



NICE PIECE'A WORK LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN TRY.

GEEZ, I HATE IT WHEN THEY LOOK AT 'CHU LIKE A KICKED PUPPY--
WHEY!



MIGHTY BRIGHT FLASH OUT BACK ONNA BEACH!

DON'T NEED THE HOUSE TO TELL ME WHAT IT MEANS:



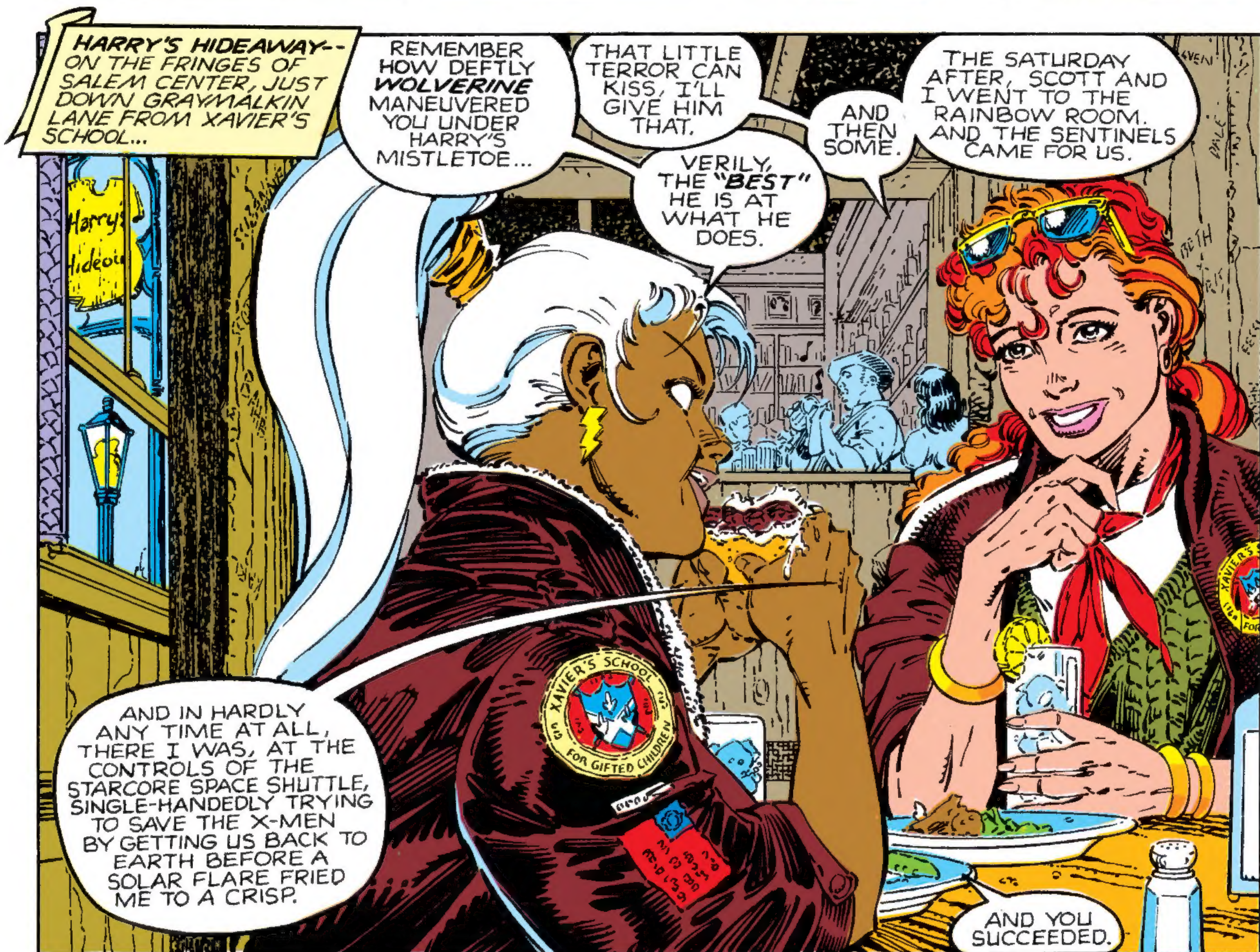
LILA CHENEY'S BACK IN TOWN!

HOW DO, BOSS?

GUIDO--

--TERRIBLE DANGER--
PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER--

--HELP--
DESPERATE NEED--
X-MENNN--



HARRY'S HIDEAWAY--
ON THE FRINGES OF SALEM CENTER, JUST DOWN GRAYMALKIN LANE FROM XAVIER'S SCHOOL...

REMEMBER HOW DEFTLY **WOLVERINE** MANEUVERED YOU UNDER HARRY'S MISTLETOE...

THAT LITTLE TERROR CAN KISS, I'LL GIVE HIM THAT.

VERILY, THE "**BEST**" HE IS AT WHAT HE DOES.

AND THEN SOME.

THE SATURDAY AFTER, SCOTT AND I WENT TO THE RAINBOW ROOM. AND THE SENTINELS CAME FOR US.

AND IN HARDLY ANY TIME AT ALL, THERE I WAS, AT THE CONTROLS OF THE STARCORE SPACE SHUTTLE, SINGLE-HANDEDLY TRYING TO SAVE THE X-MEN BY GETTING US BACK TO EARTH BEFORE A SOLAR FLARE FRIED ME TO A CRISP.

AND YOU SUCCEEDED.

SO I'M TOLD. I THOUGHT I DIED.

THAT'S THE PROBLEM.

FOR ME, THOSE MOMENTS SEEM LIKE YESTERDAY.

I BLACKED OUT IN SPACE, I AWOKE IN THE BAXTER BUILDING, AGES LATER, MY WHOLE WORLD TURNED UPSIDE-DOWN, THE MODERN EQUIVALENT OF RIP VAN WINKLE. TO LEARN ABOUT PHOENIX AND MADELYNE PRYOR, AND HOW THOSE TWO INDIVIDUALS WERE REALLY JUST EXTENSIONS OF MY OWN BEING.

HOW'S IT FEEL HAVING THE "WONDER YEARS" TO LIVE ALL OVER AGAIN?

I TELL YOU, ORORO, THE HARDER WE TRY TO UNTANGLE THIS MESS, THE TIGHTER IT SEEMS I'M TIED TO IT.

BUT LISTEN TO ME, NATTER NATTER NATTER, THE WAY I'M RUNNING ON YOU'D THINK I WAS BEING PAID BY THE WORD.

I HAVE UNDERGONE SO MANY TESTS SINCE MY RETURN--!

UNFORTUNATELY, THE RESULTS APPEAR LESS AND LESS HOPEFUL.

I AM OF AN AGE WHERE THE BODY CHANGES RAPIDLY. YET THERE ARE NONE FORGE CAN RECORD.

I MAY BE LIKE PETER PAN, THE ETERNAL CHILD.

AIN'T WE THE PAIR--

--ME, WITH TOO MANY LIVES FOR ONE BODY, YOU WITH NOT ENOUGH BODY FOR YOUR LIFE.

MUDDLING THROUGH REGARDLESS.

FROM ONE CATASTROPHE TO THE NEXT.

'TIL DEATH DO US PART.

THAT'LL BE THE DAY.

TO THE X-MEN, THEN! WHO DO NOT DIE THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY.

AND NO MATTER HOW HARD WE TRY...

...NONE OF US DIE FOREVER.

GIVE US HALF A CHANCE, KIDDO, MAYBE WE'LL CHANGE THAT.

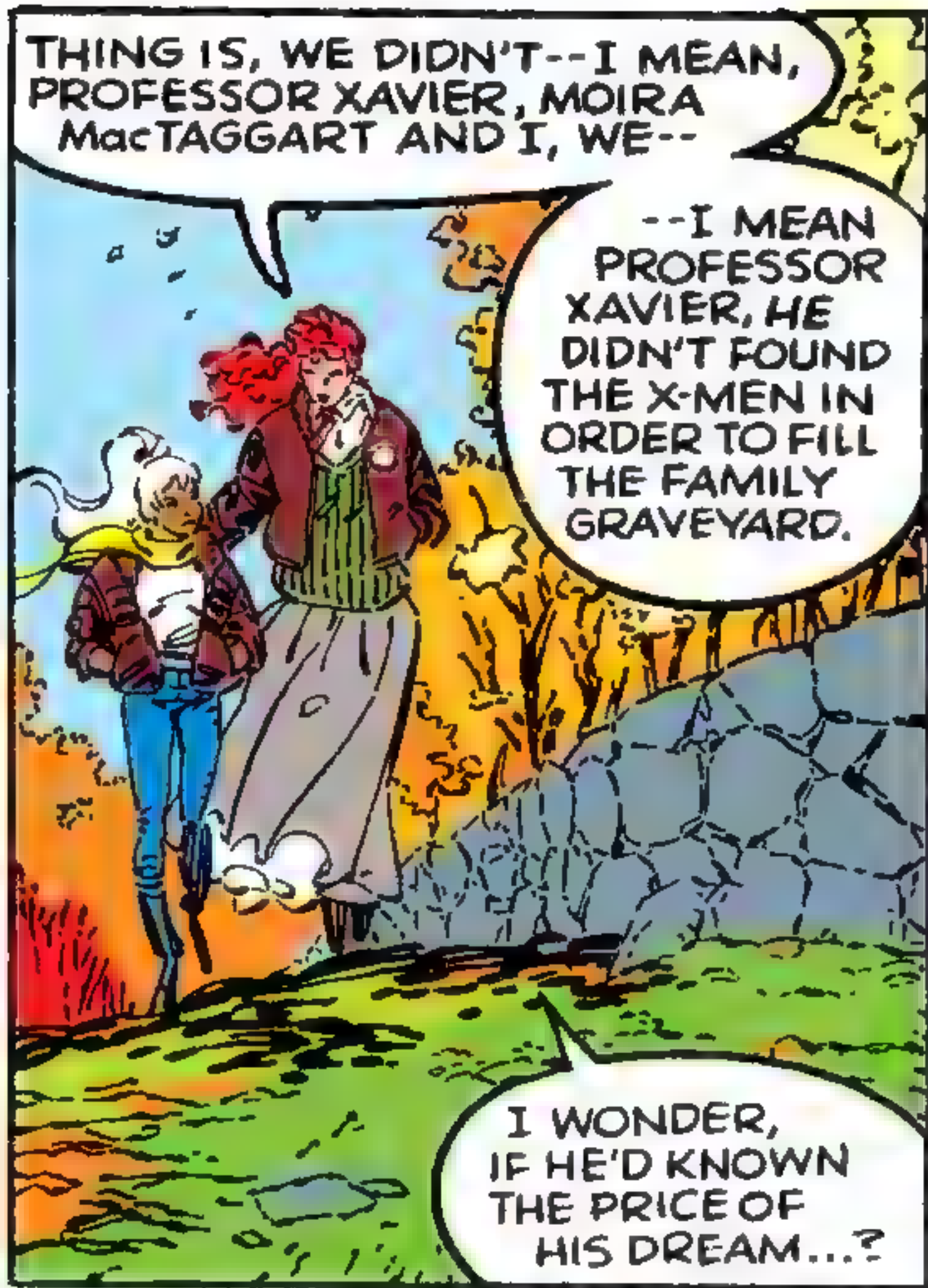
POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION ON ONE PRIME TARGET: JEAN GREY, A.K.A. MARVEL GIRL. INITIAL AFFILIATION, X-MEN. CURRENTLY, X-FACTOR.

THE OTHER SUPERFICIALLY RESEMBLES STORM, BUT THE AGE IS ALL WRONG. DAUGHTER MAYBE, OR YOUNGER SISTER?

NO RECORD OF ANY.

DOESN'T MATTER. IF SHE'S ONE OF XAVIER'S STUDENTS...

...THAT MAKES HER FAIR GAME!



THING IS, WE DIDN'T--I MEAN, PROFESSOR XAVIER, MOIRA MacTAGGART AND I, WE--

--I MEAN PROFESSOR XAVIER, HE DIDN'T FOUND THE X-MEN IN ORDER TO FILL THE FAMILY GRAVEYARD.

I WONDER, IF HE'D KNOWN THE PRICE OF HIS DREAM...?



WE KNOW THAT PRICE, YET WE ALWAYS KEEP COMING BACK FOR MORE.

LIKE ARTHUR AND HIS KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE.



THE PROFESSOR'S FAVORITE BOOK, THE ONCE AND FUTURE KING. BUT HE ALWAYS SAW HIMSELF AS MERLIN, SHOWING THE WAY.

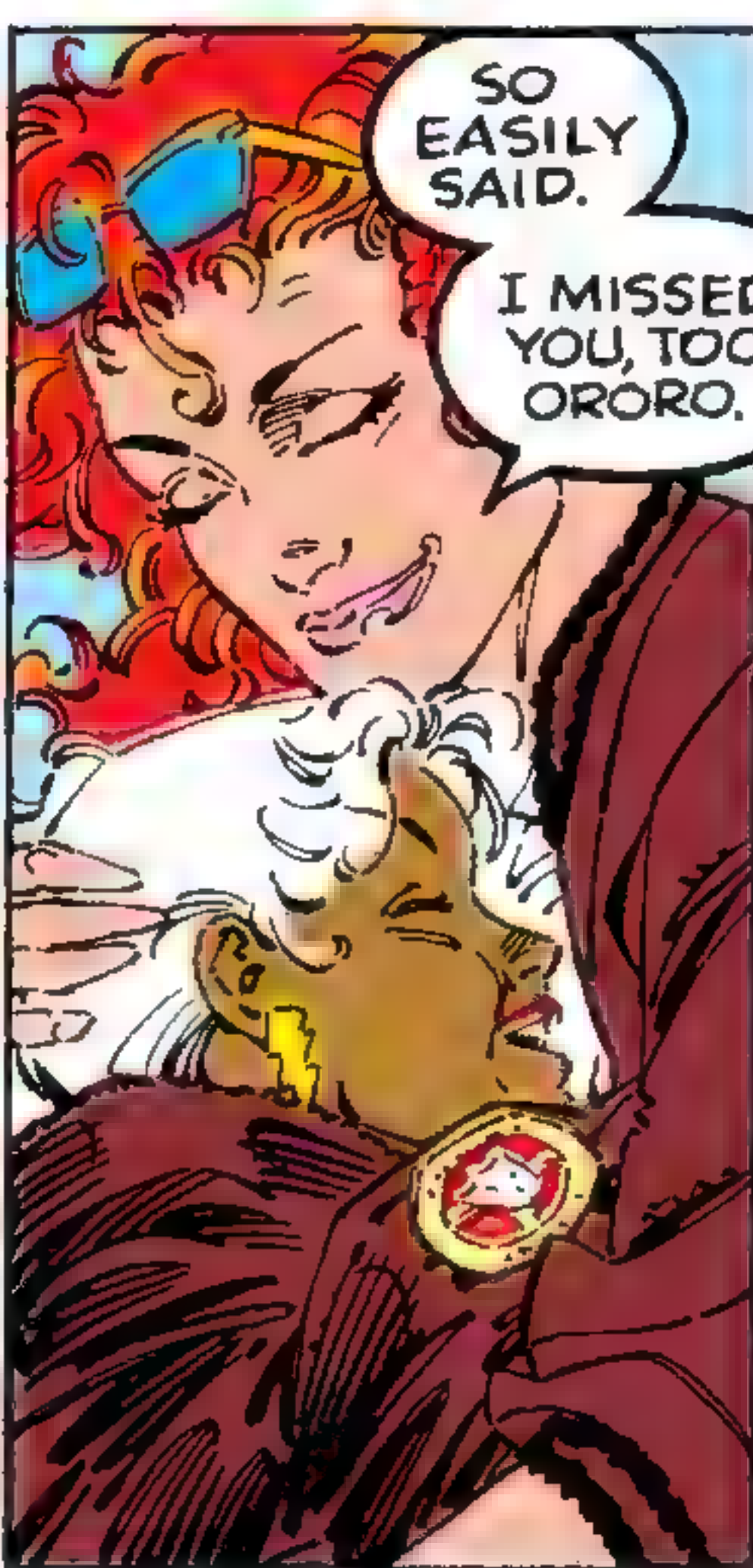
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED THEN, WHO REPRESENTS KING ARTHUR?

LIKE HIM, WE CANNOT FOREVER USE OUR TEACHER AS A CRUTCH.



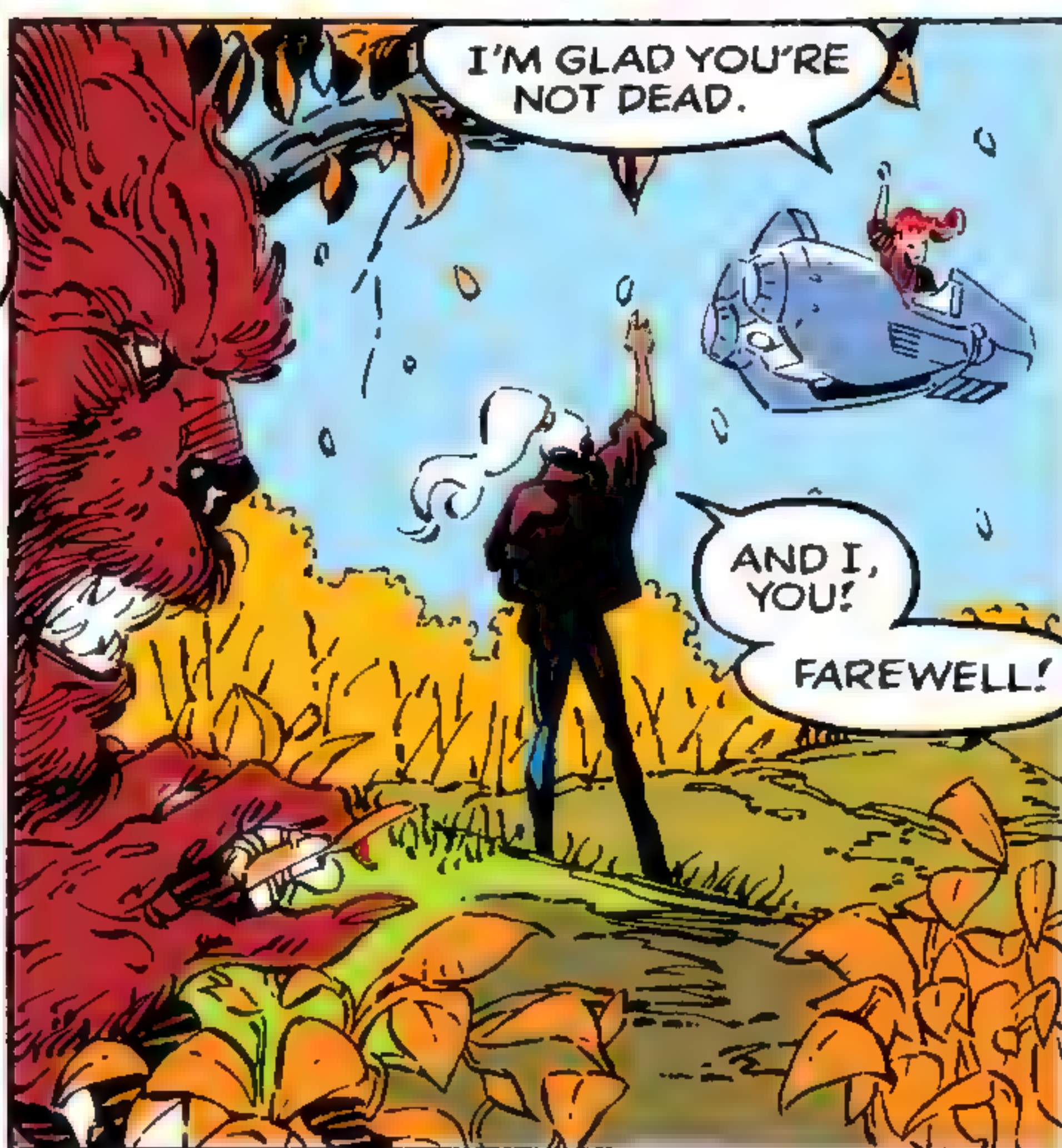
MISS HIM, YES, BUT WE HAVE TO FLY BY OURSELVES...

...AND LEARN TO TAKE THE CONSEQUENCES--GOOD OR ILL--OF OUR ACTIONS.



SO EASILY SAID.

I MISSED YOU, TOO, ORORO.



I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT DEAD.

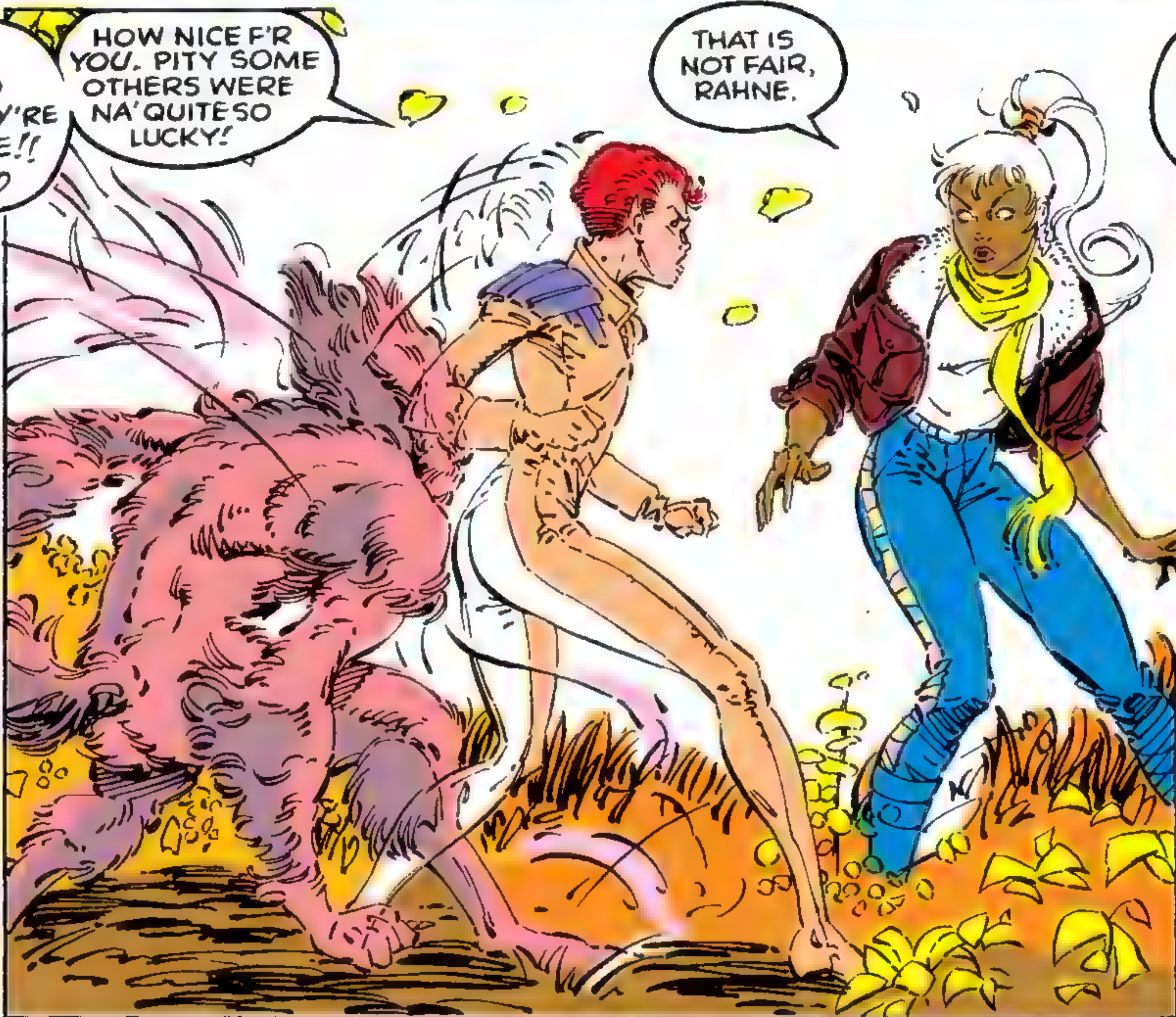
AND I, YOU!

FAREWELL!



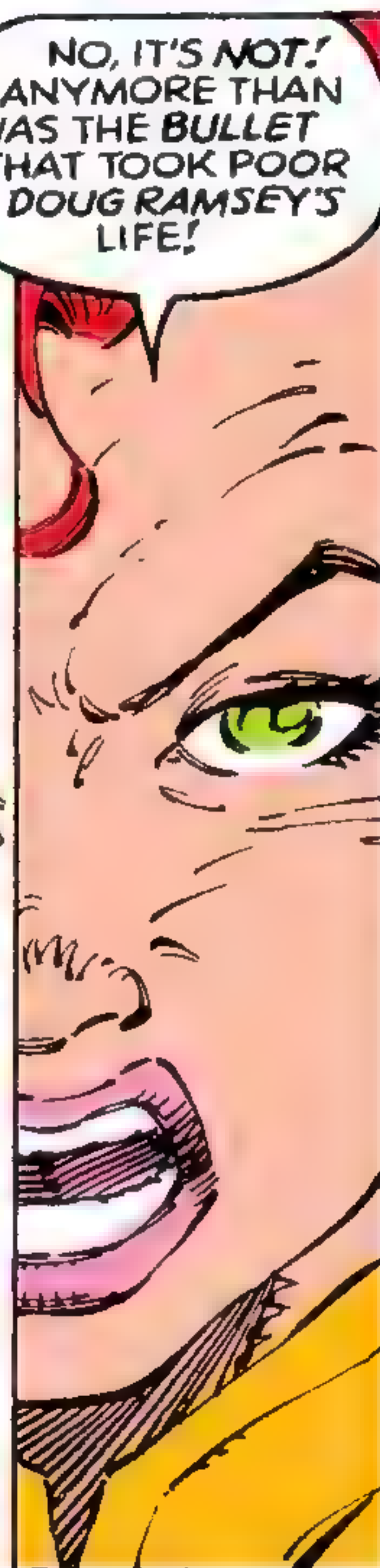
I MISSED YOU!

I'M SO GLAD Y'RE ALIVE!!

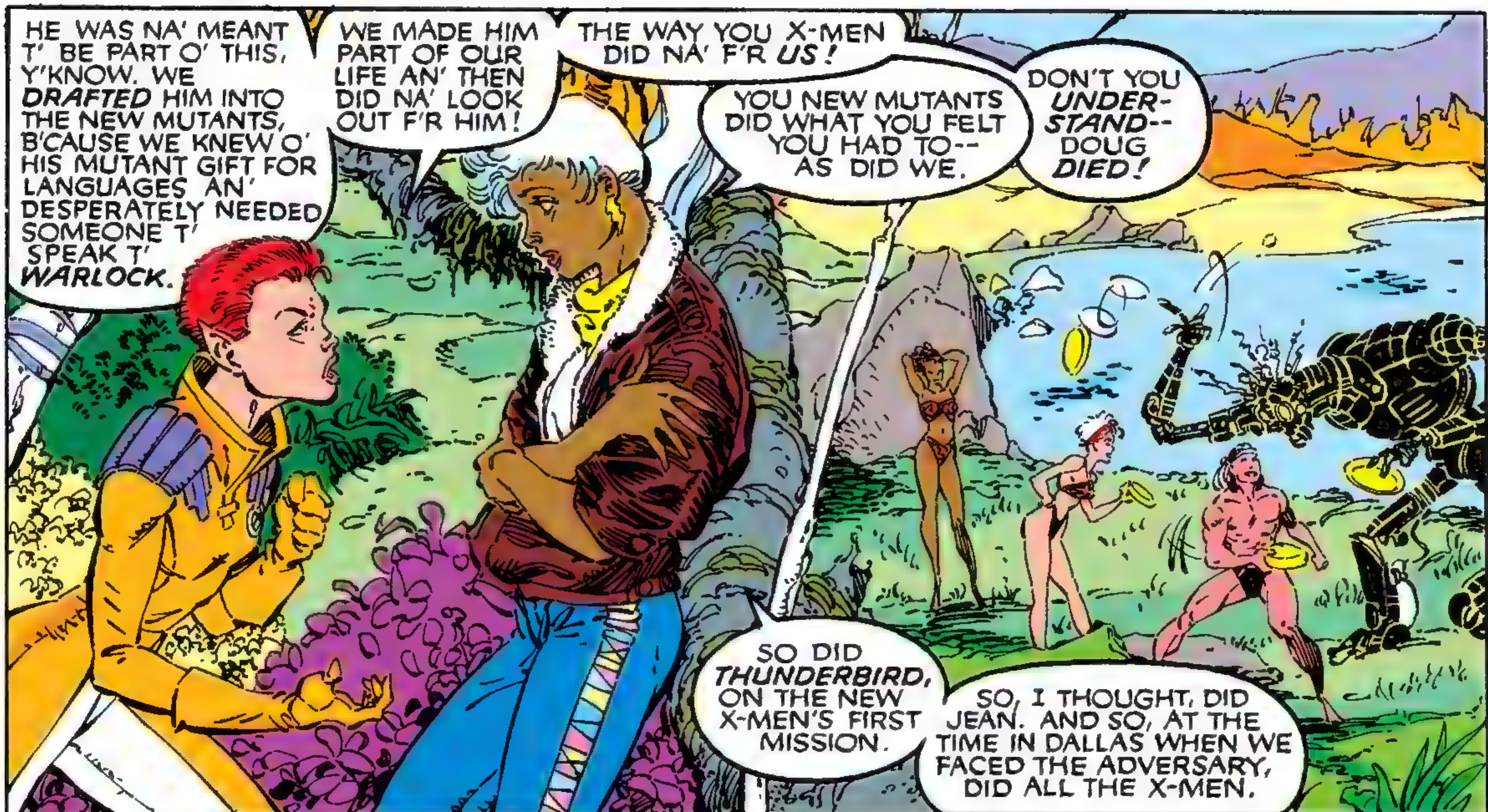


HOW NICE F'R YOU. PITY SOME OTHERS WERE NA' QUITE SO LUCKY!

THAT IS NOT FAIR, RAHNE.



NO, IT'S NOT! ANYMORE THAN WAS THE BULLET THAT TOOK POOR DOUG RAMSEY'S LIFE!



HE WAS NA' MEANT T' BE PART O' THIS, Y'KNOW. WE **DRAFTED** HIM INTO THE NEW MUTANTS, B'CAUSE WE KNEW O' HIS MUTANT GIFT FOR LANGUAGES AN' DESPERATELY NEEDED SOMEONE T' SPEAK T' **WARLOCK**.

WE MADE HIM PART OF OUR LIFE AN' THEN DID NA' LOOK OUT F'R HIM!

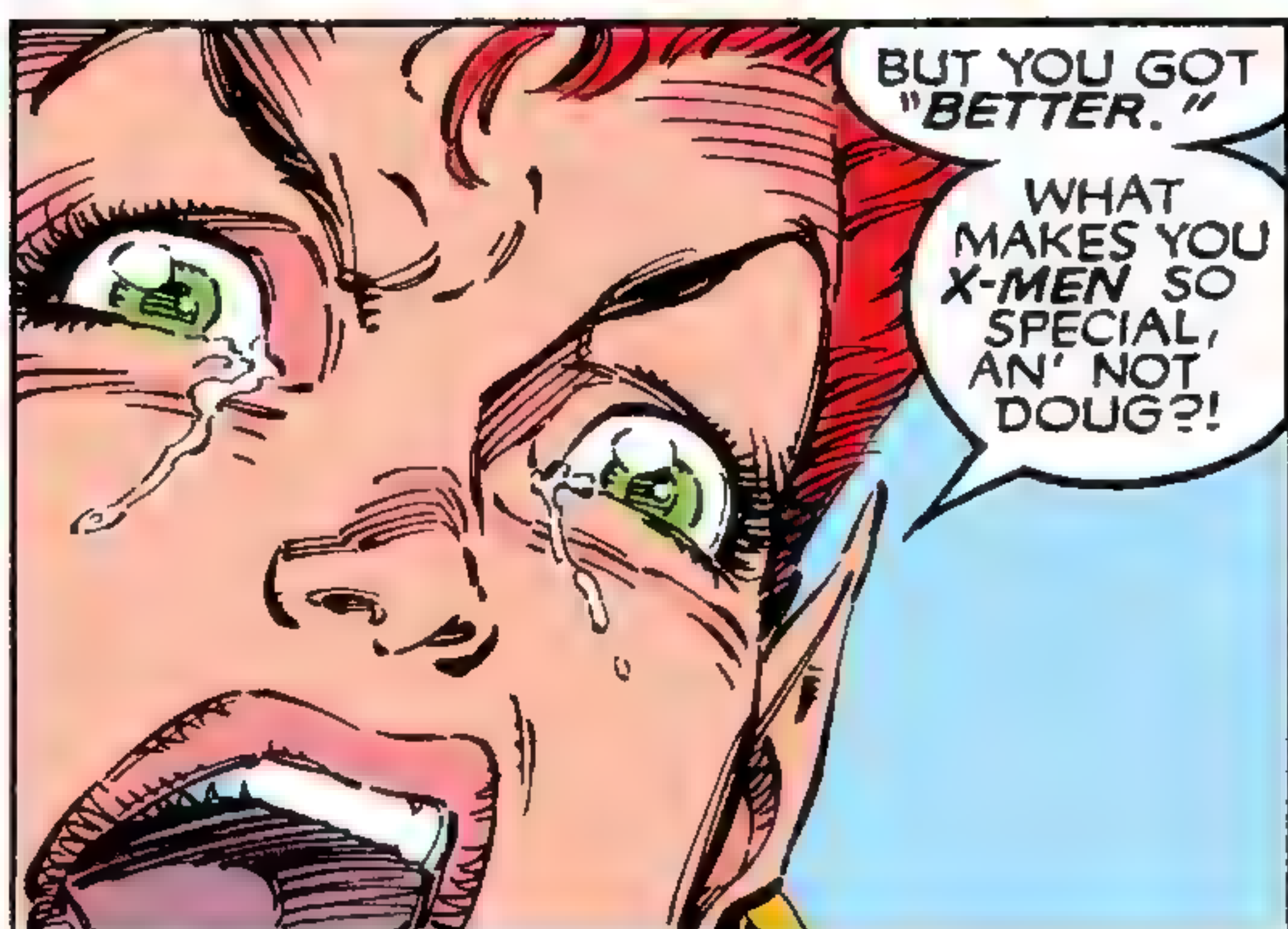
THE WAY YOU X-MEN DID NA' F'R US!

YOU NEW MUTANTS DID WHAT YOU FELT YOU HAD TO-- AS DID WE.

DON'T YOU **UNDERSTAND-- DOUG DIED!**

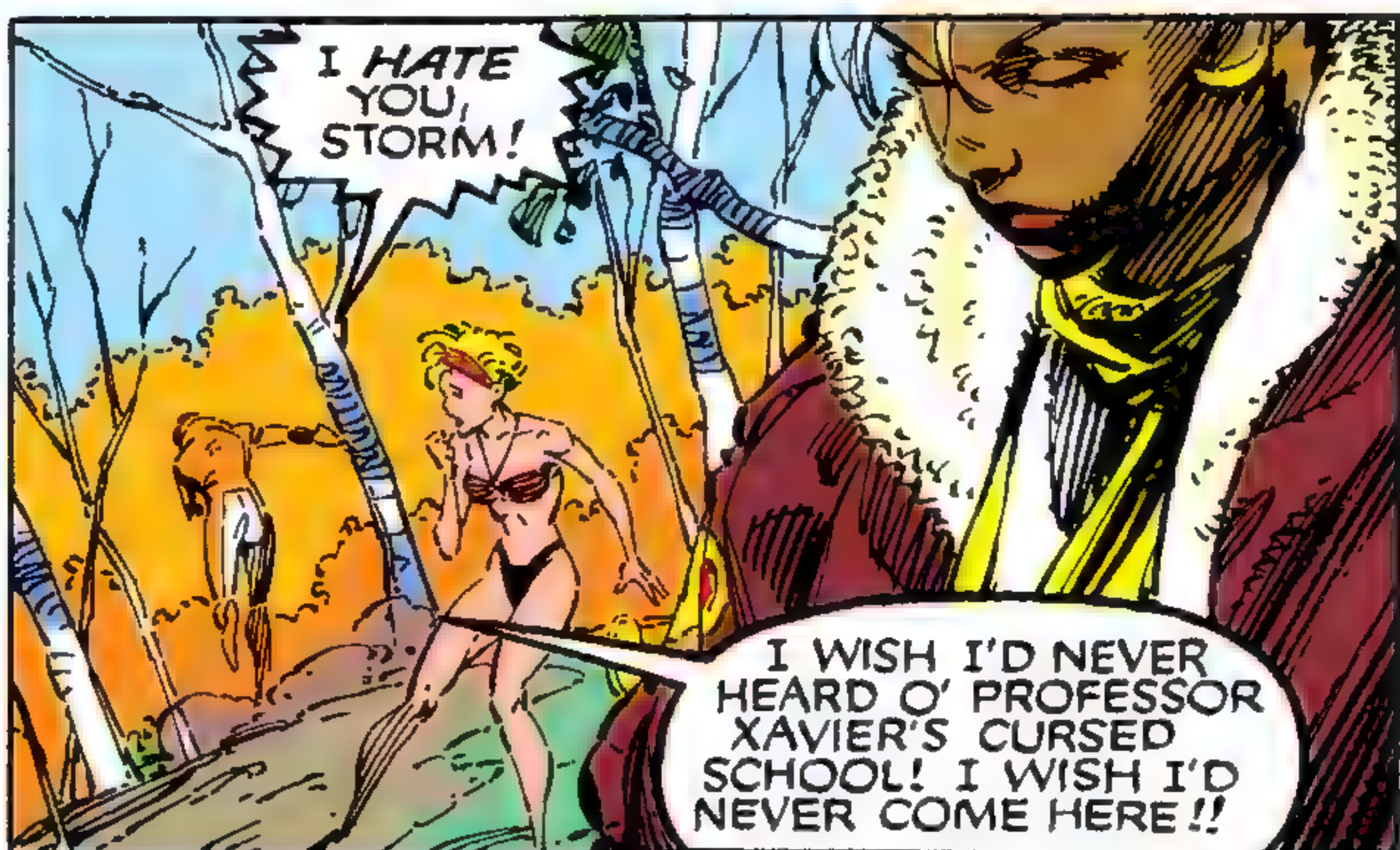
SO DID **THUNDERBIRD**, ON THE NEW X-MEN'S FIRST MISSION.

SO, I THOUGHT, DID JEAN. AND SO, AT THE TIME IN DALLAS WHEN WE FACED THE ADVERSARY, DID ALL THE X-MEN.



BUT YOU GOT "BETTER."

WHAT MAKES YOU X-MEN SO SPECIAL, AN' NOT DOUG?!



I HATE YOU, STORM!

I WISH I'D NEVER HEARD O' PROFESSOR XAVIER'S CURSED SCHOOL! I WISH I'D NEVER COME HERE !!

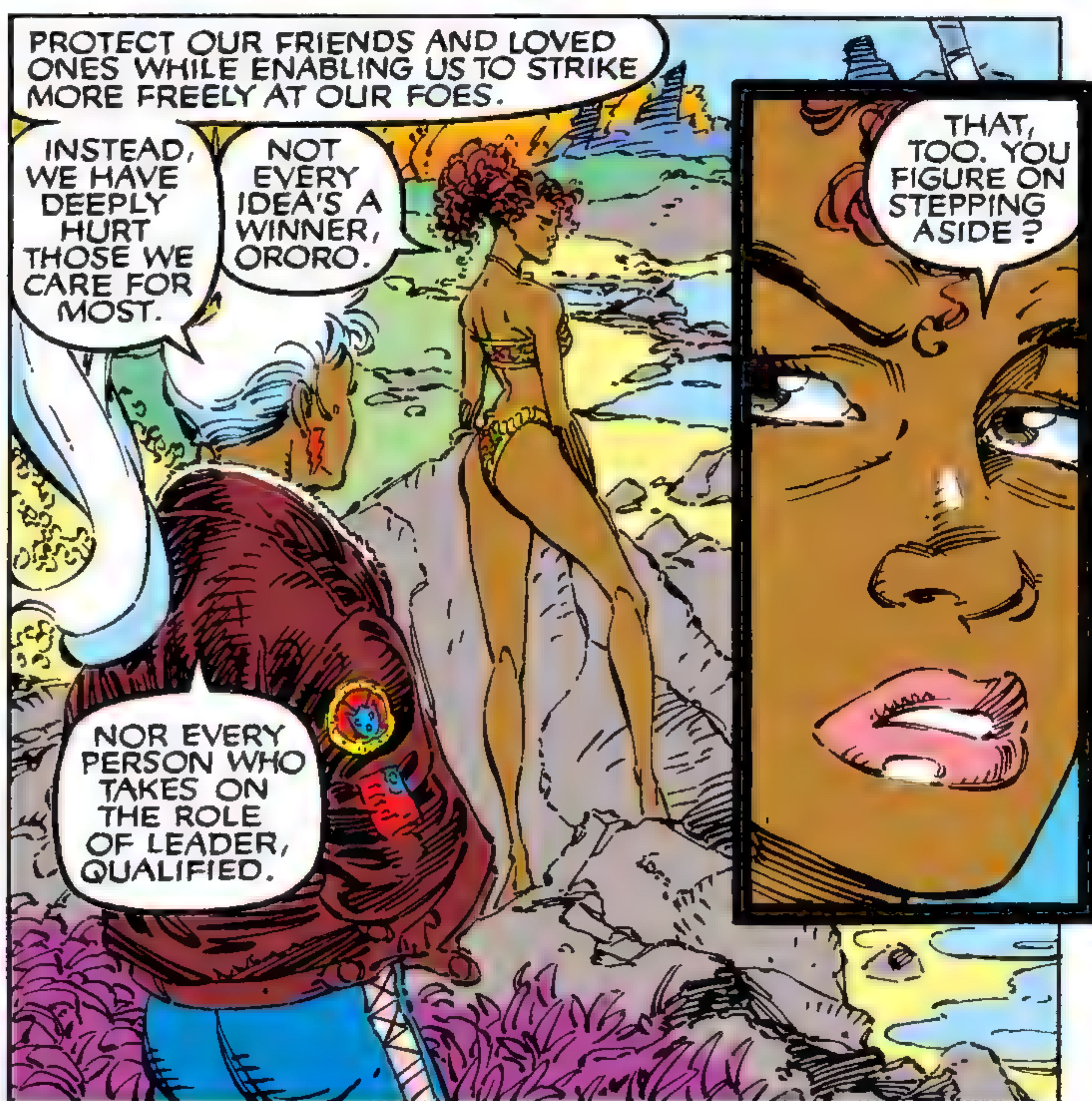


NO ONE EVER SAID IT WAS EASY.

I MESSED UP, STEVIE.

I THOUGHT HIDING IN THE SHADOWS...

...LETTING THE WORLD BELIEVE THE X-MEN WERE DEAD, WOULD GIVE US AN EDGE.



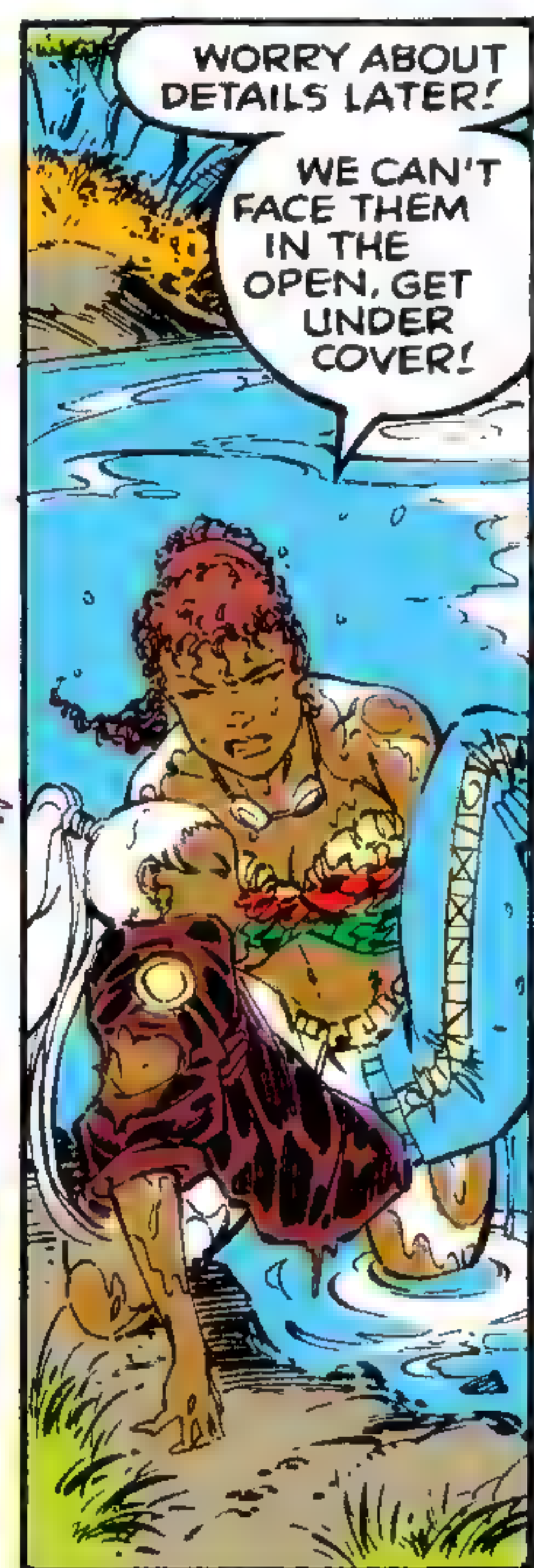
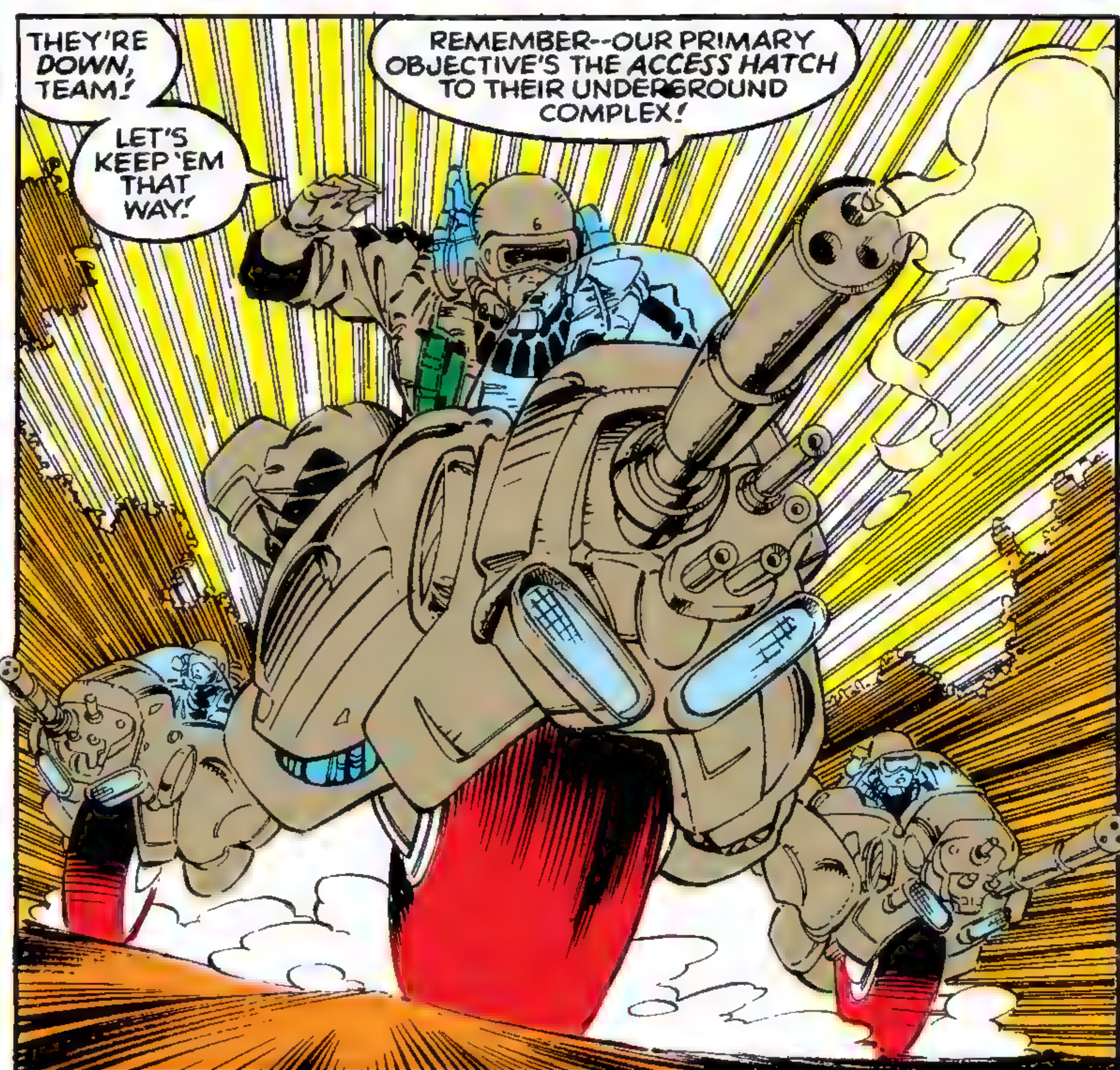
PROTECT OUR FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES WHILE ENABLING US TO STRIKE MORE FREELY AT OUR FOES.

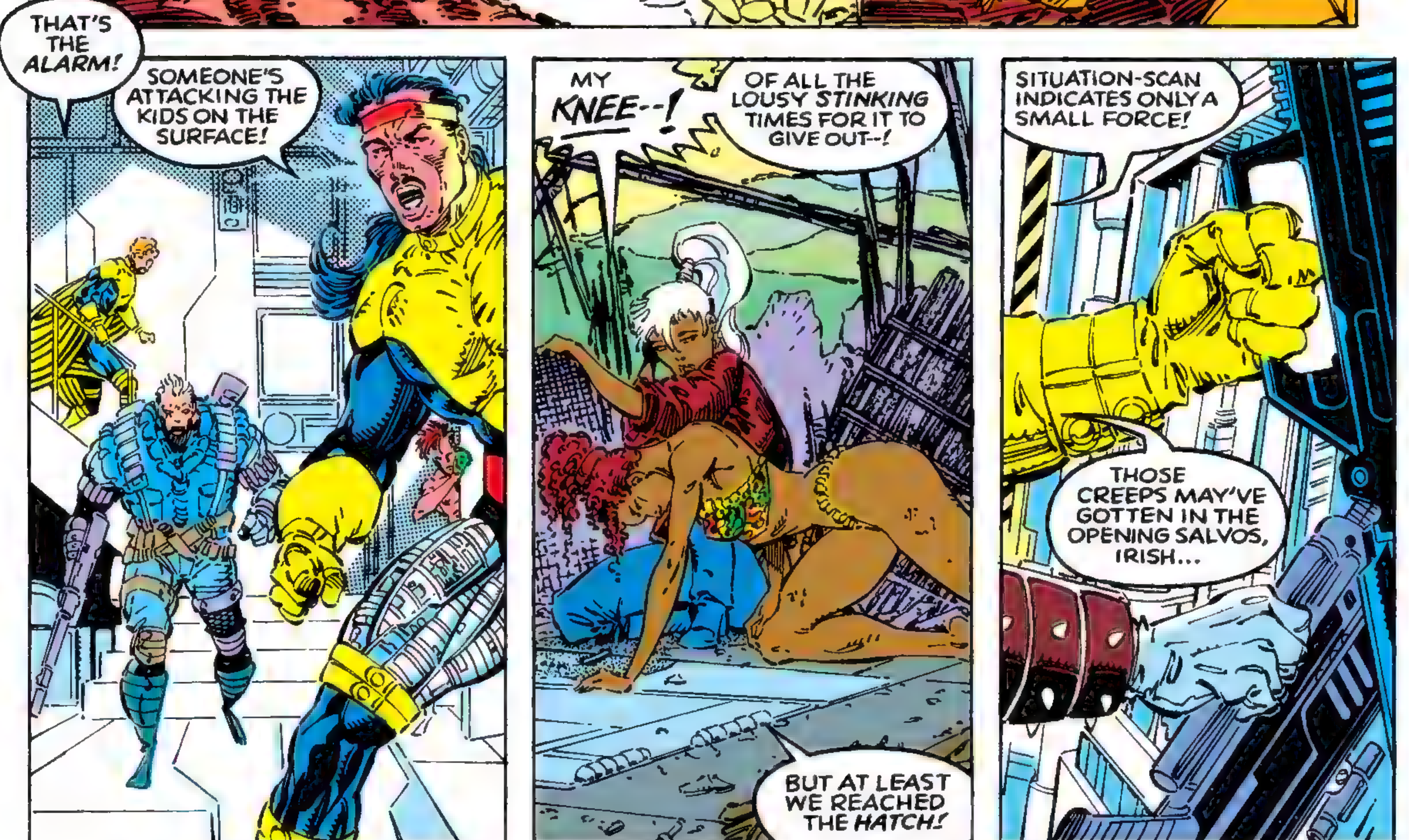
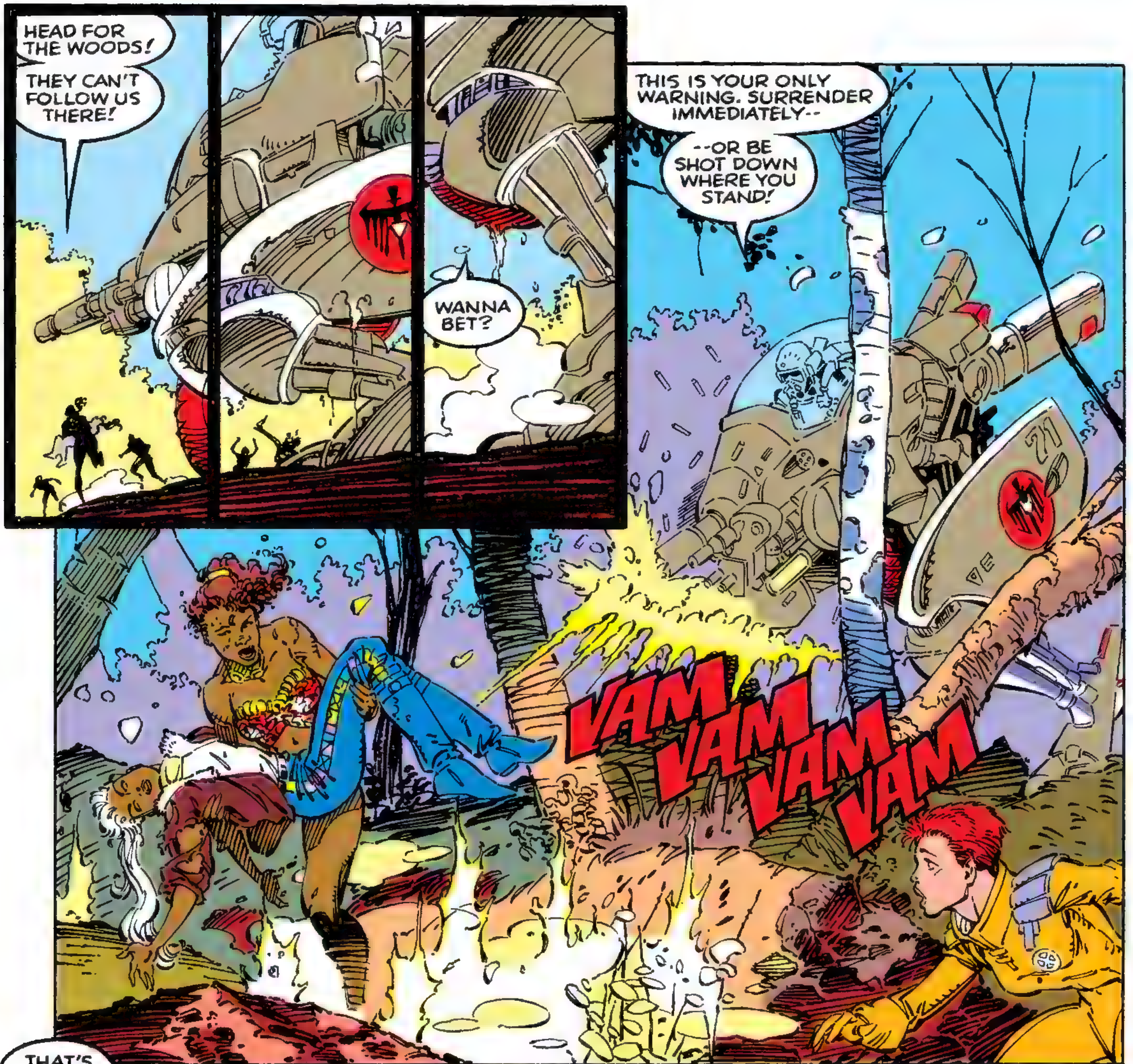
INSTEAD, WE HAVE DEEPLY HURT THOSE WE CARE FOR MOST.

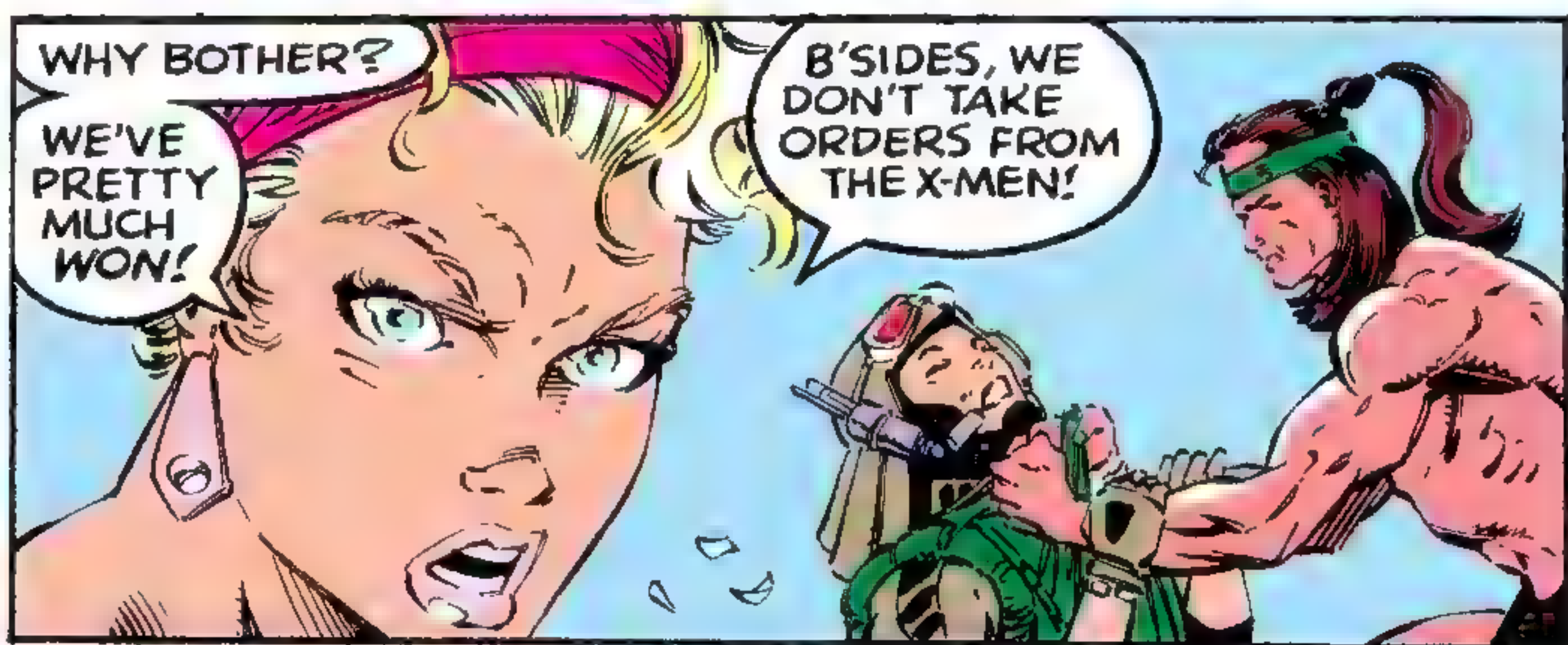
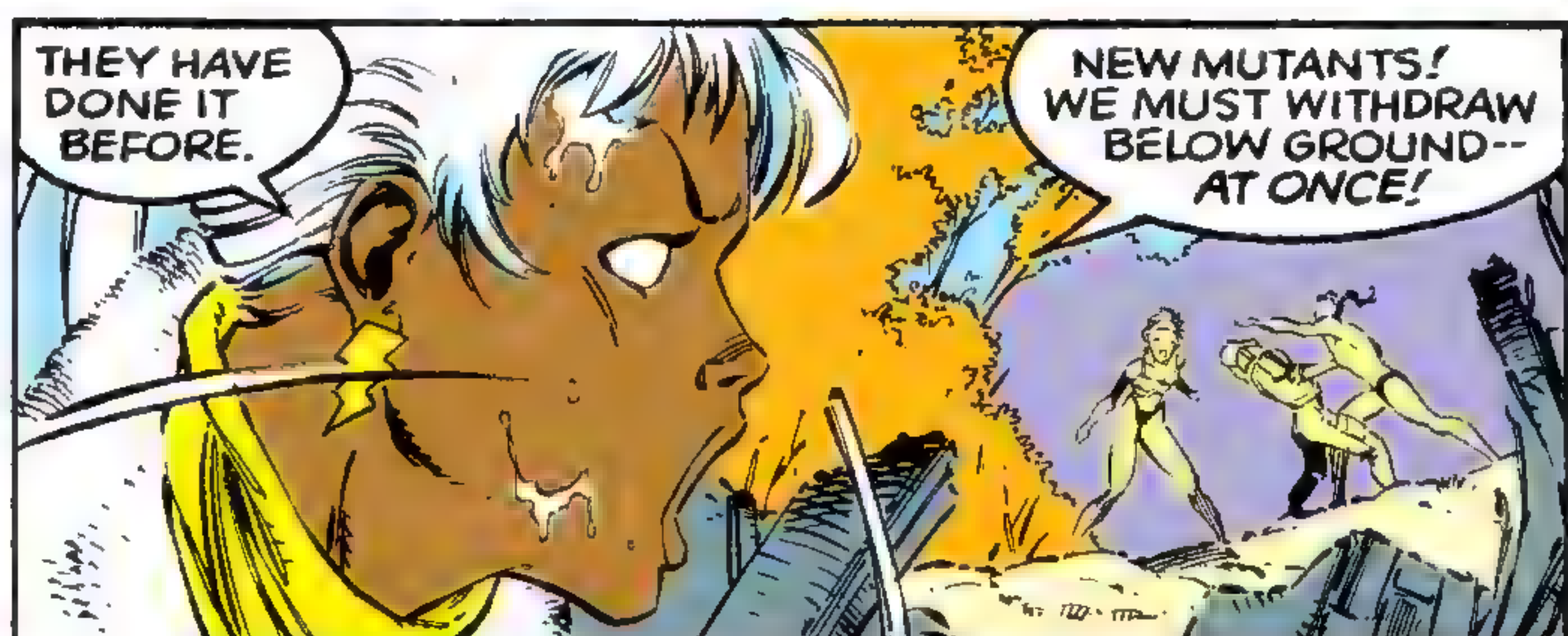
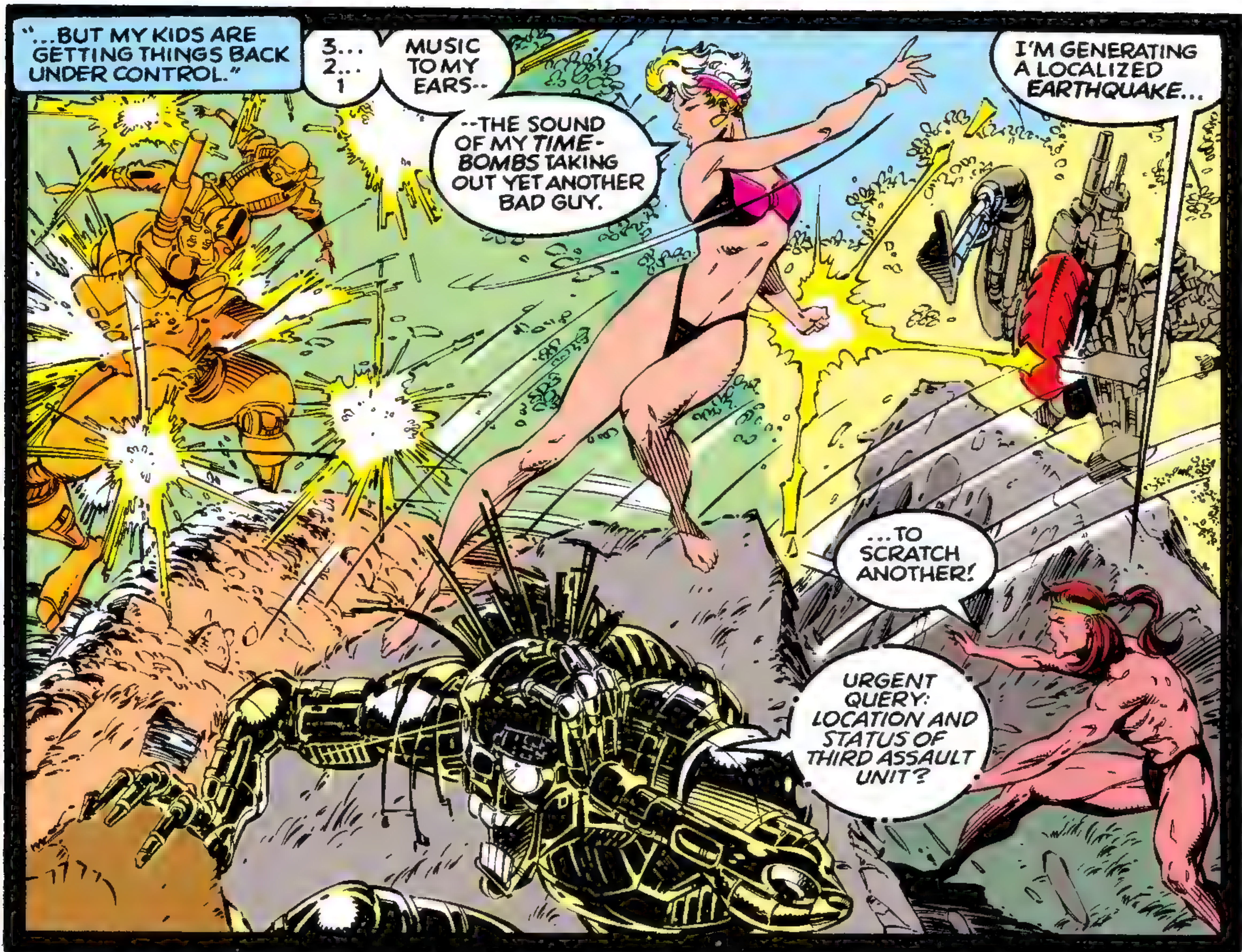
NOT EVERY IDEA'S A WINNER, ORORO.

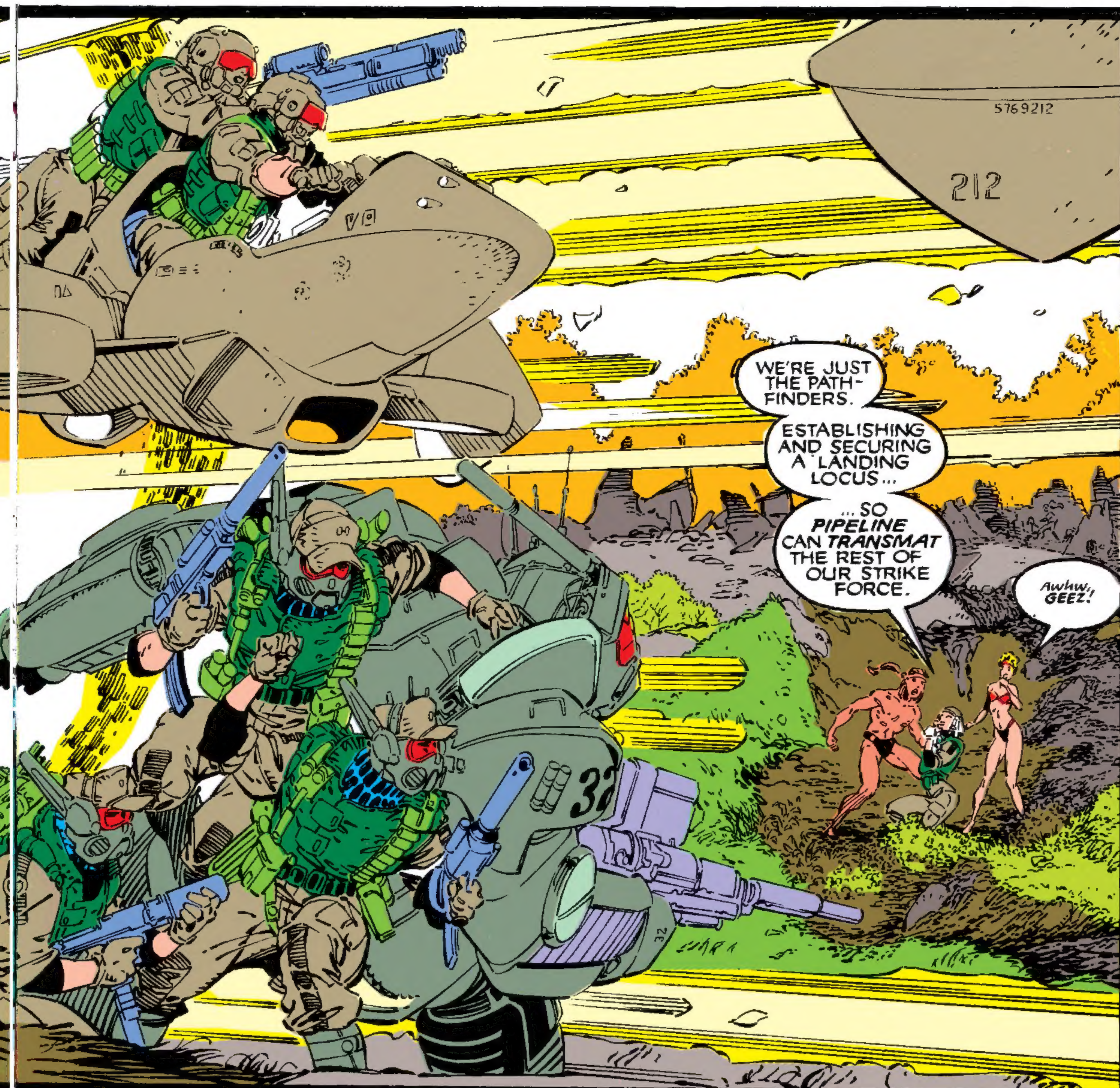
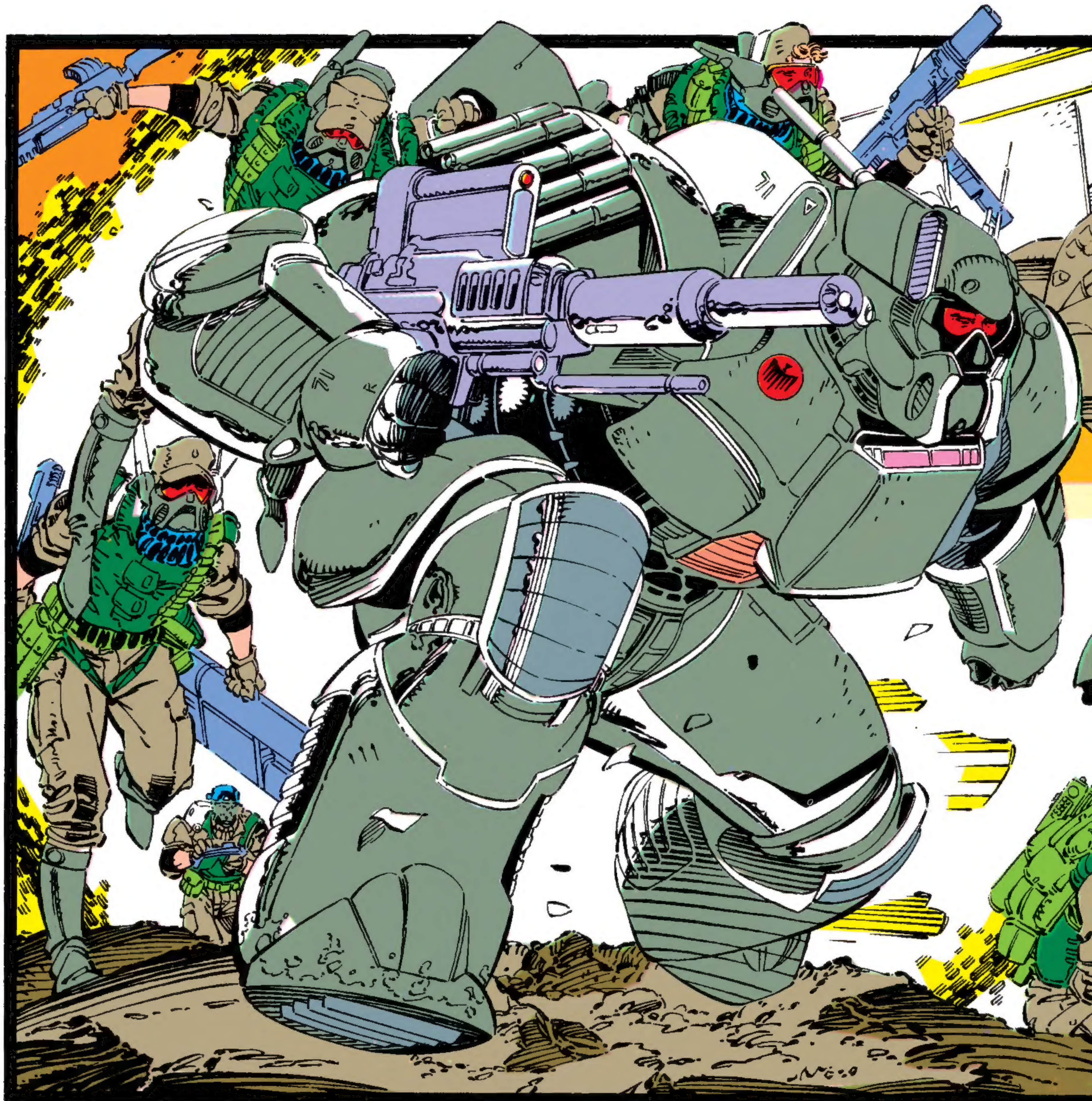
NOR EVERY PERSON WHO TAKES ON THE ROLE OF LEADER, QUALIFIED.

THAT, TOO. YOU FIGURE ON STEPPING ASIDE?







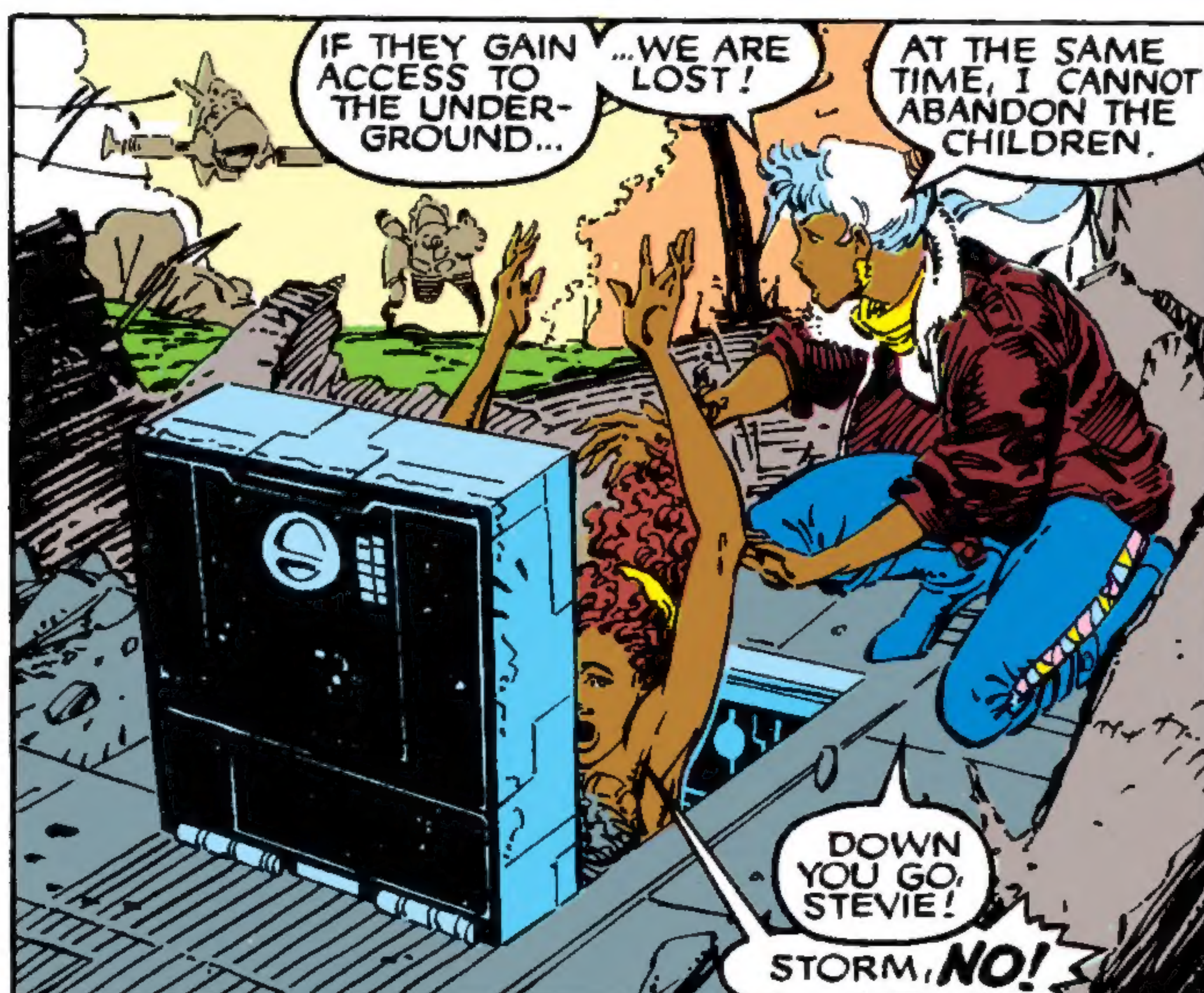


WE'RE JUST THE PATH-FINDERS.

ESTABLISHING AND SECURING A LANDING LOCUS...

...SO PIPELINE CAN TRANSMAT THE REST OF OUR STRIKE FORCE.

Awwh, GEEZ!



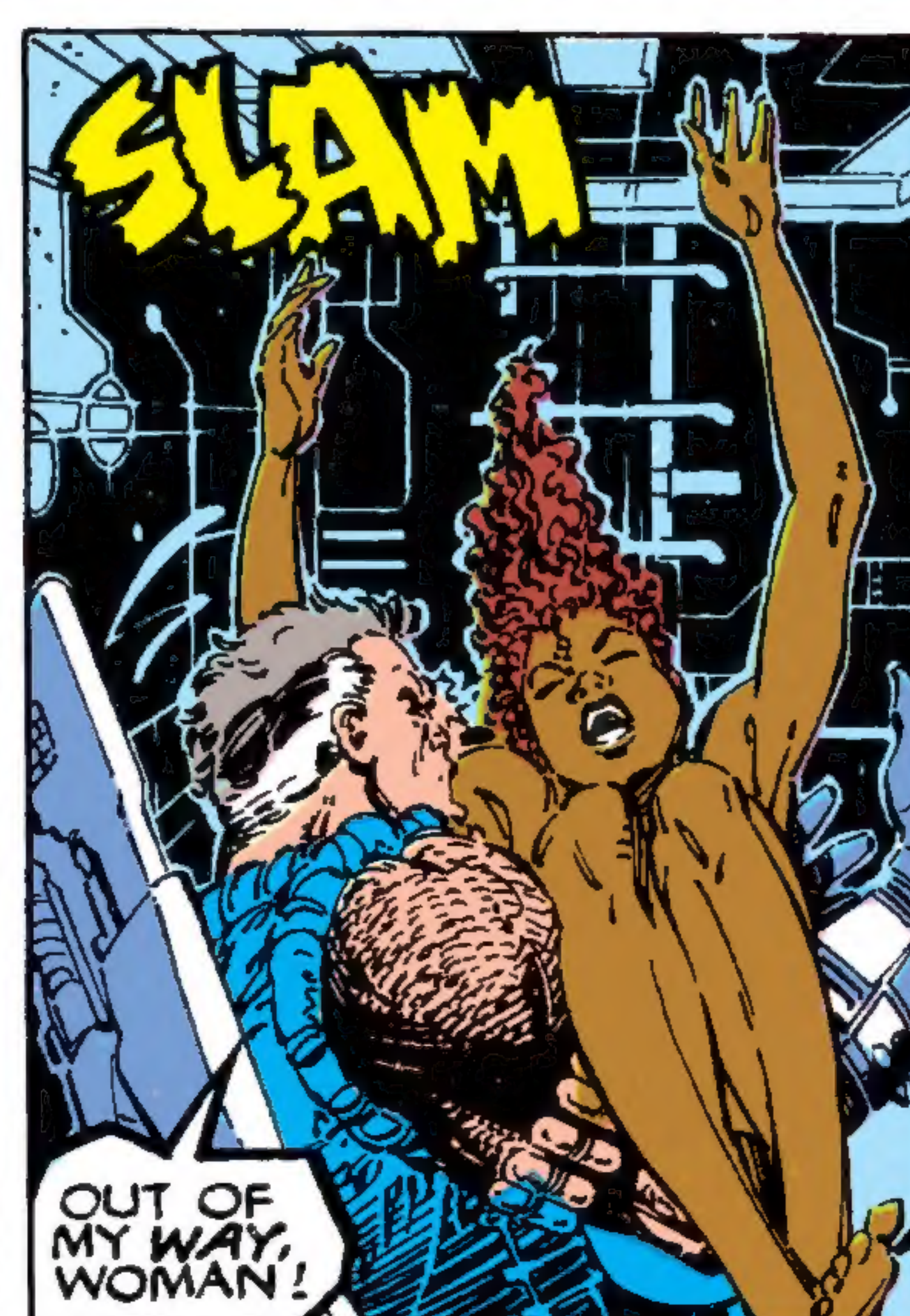
IF THEY GAIN ACCESS TO THE UNDERGROUND...

...WE ARE LOST!

AT THE SAME TIME, I CANNOT ABANDON THE CHILDREN.

DOWN YOU GO, STEVIE!

STORM, NO!



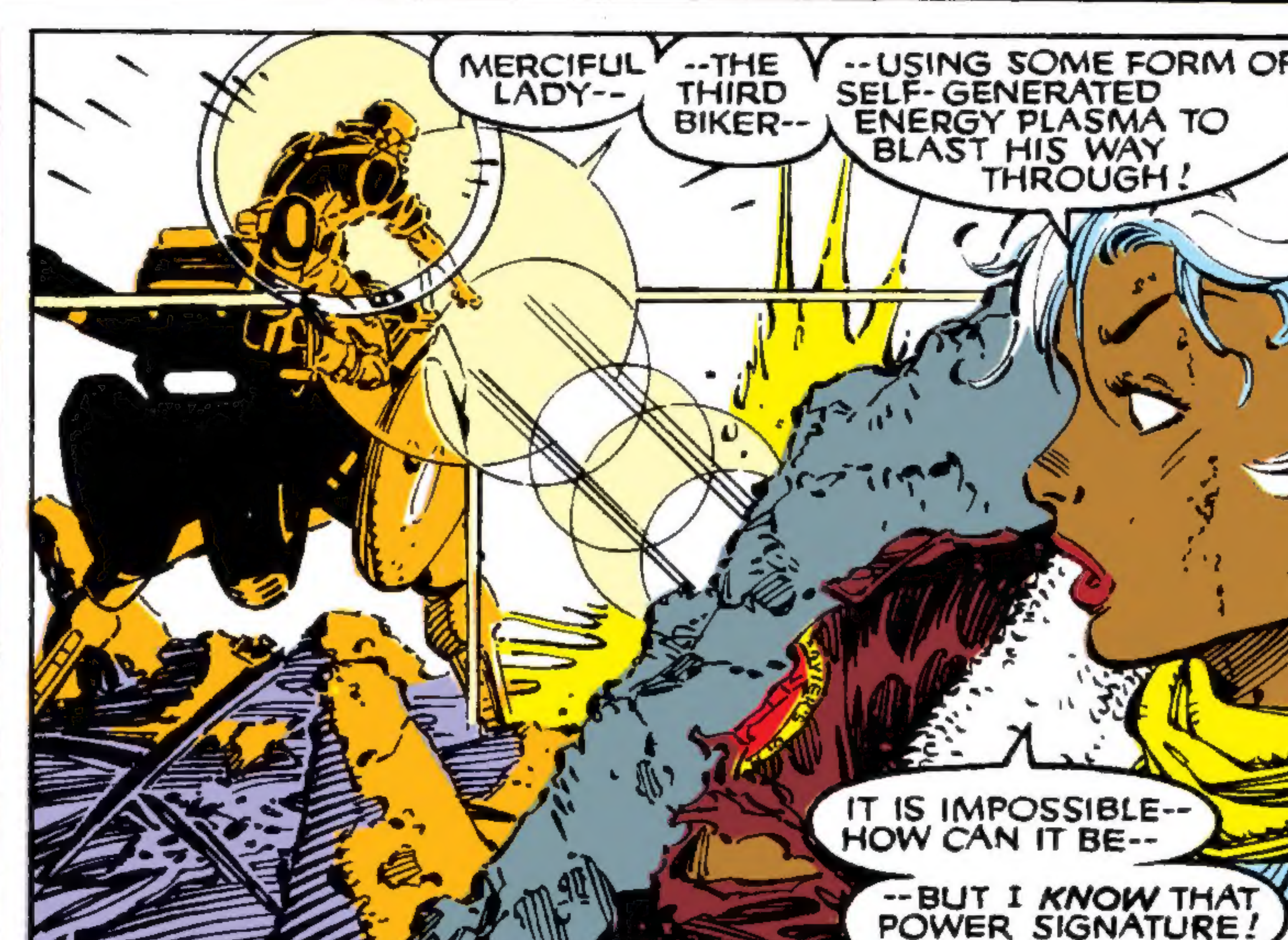
SLAM

OUT OF MY WAY, WOMAN!



WITH THE LOCK SCRAMBLED...

...THE HATCH IS SEALED.



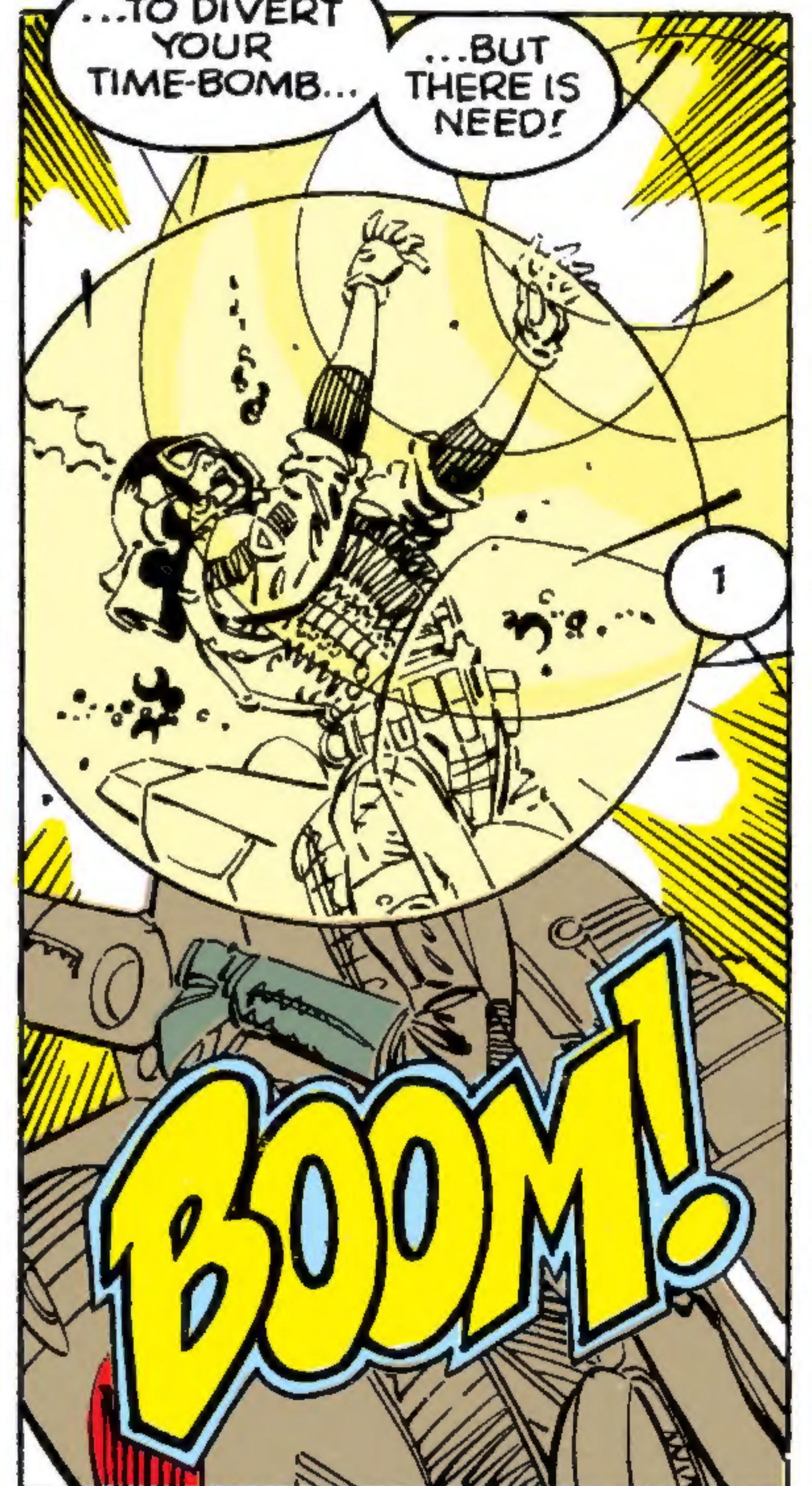
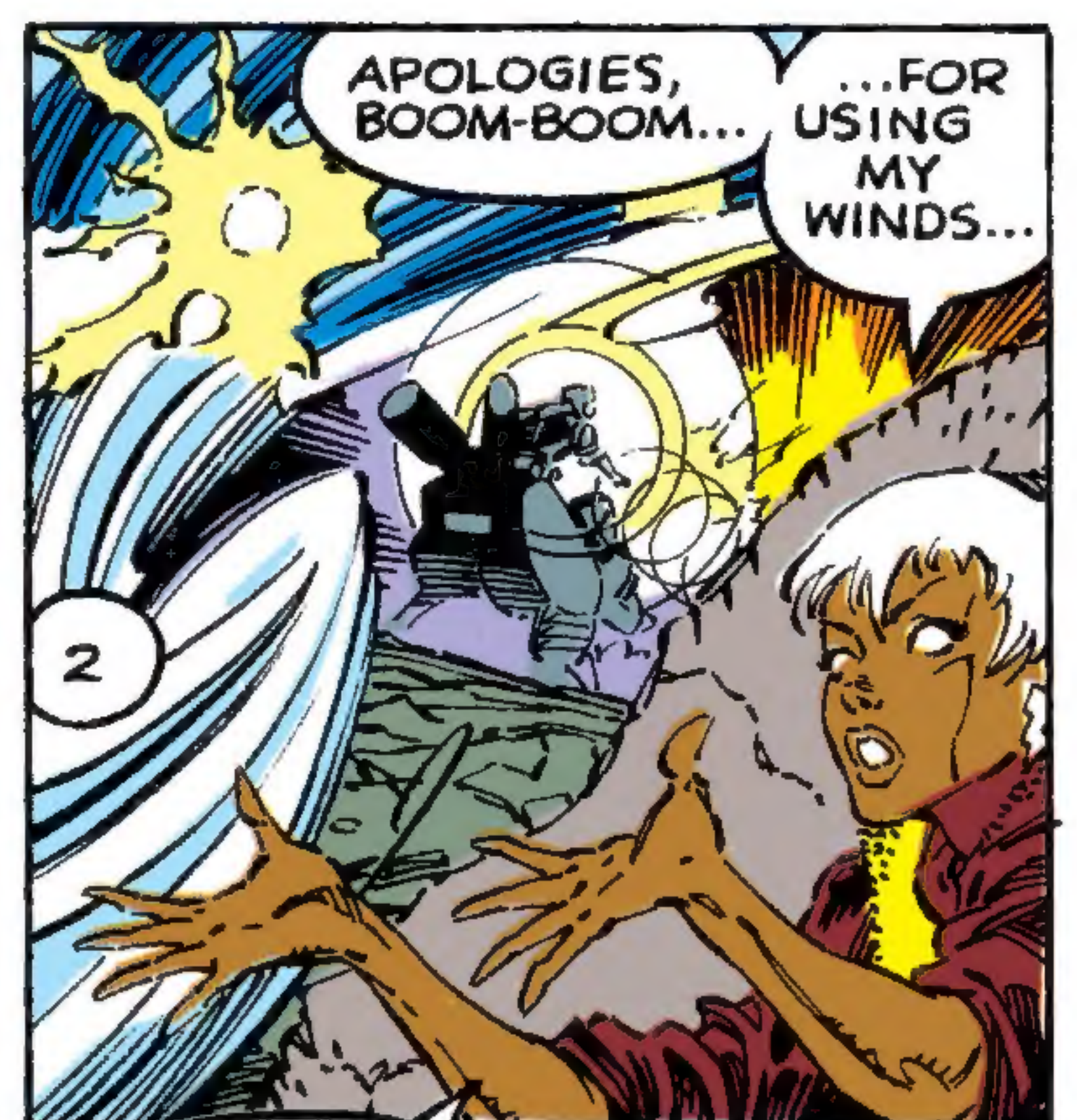
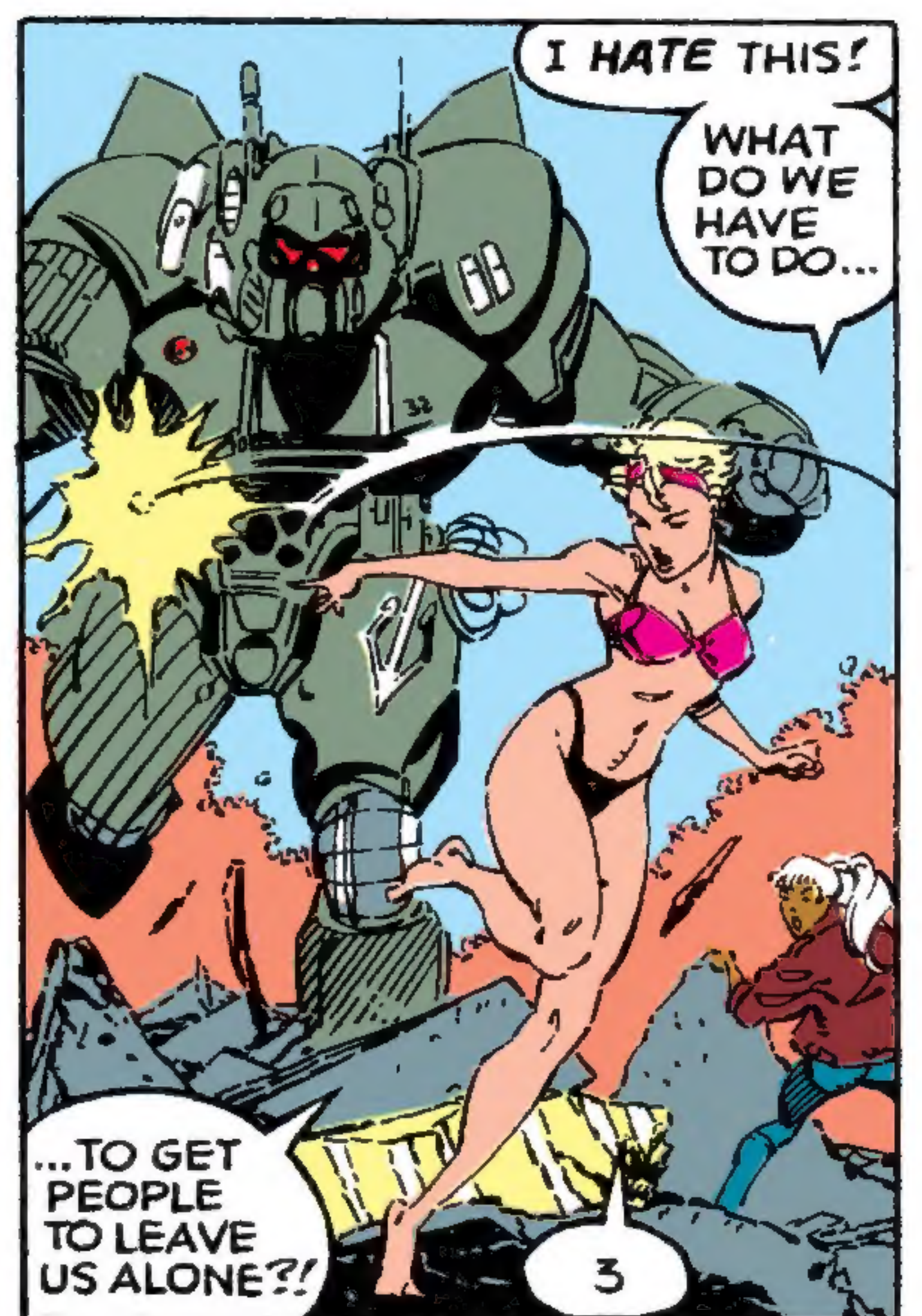
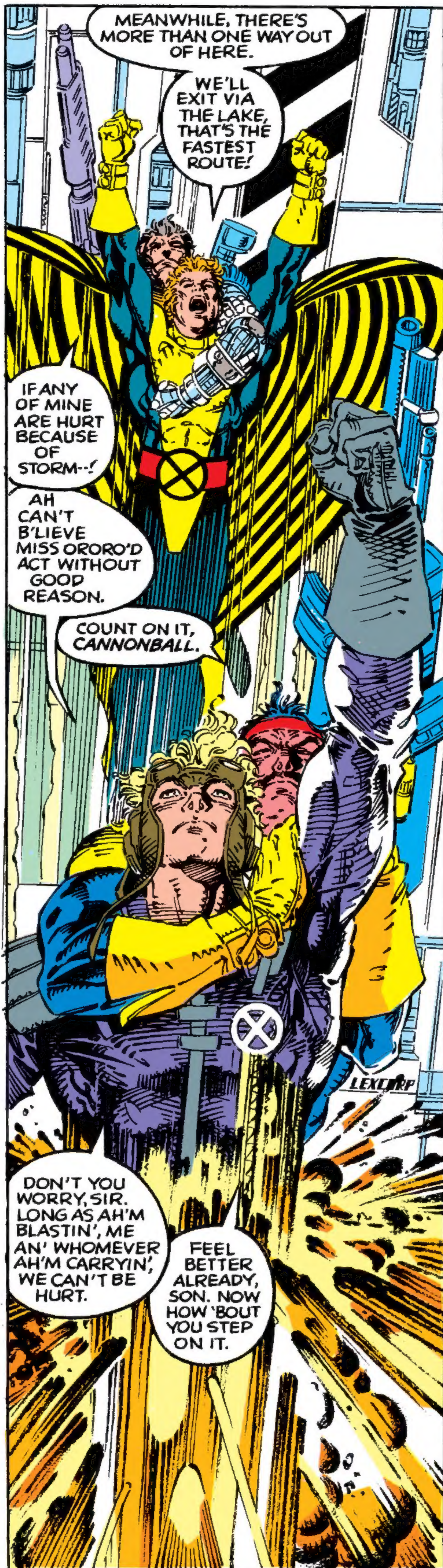
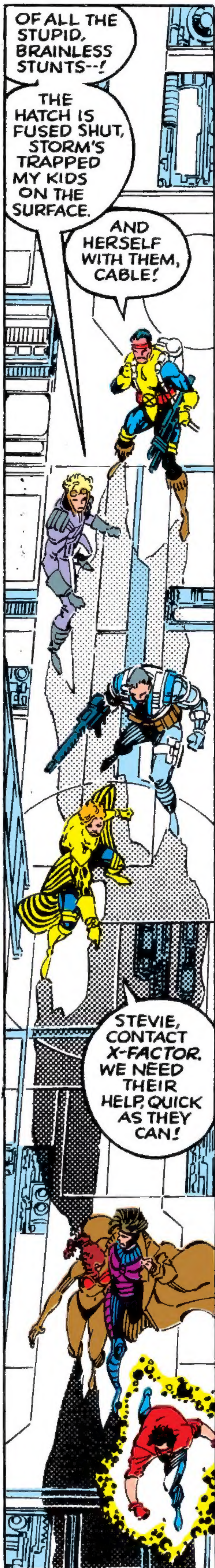
MERCIFUL LADY--

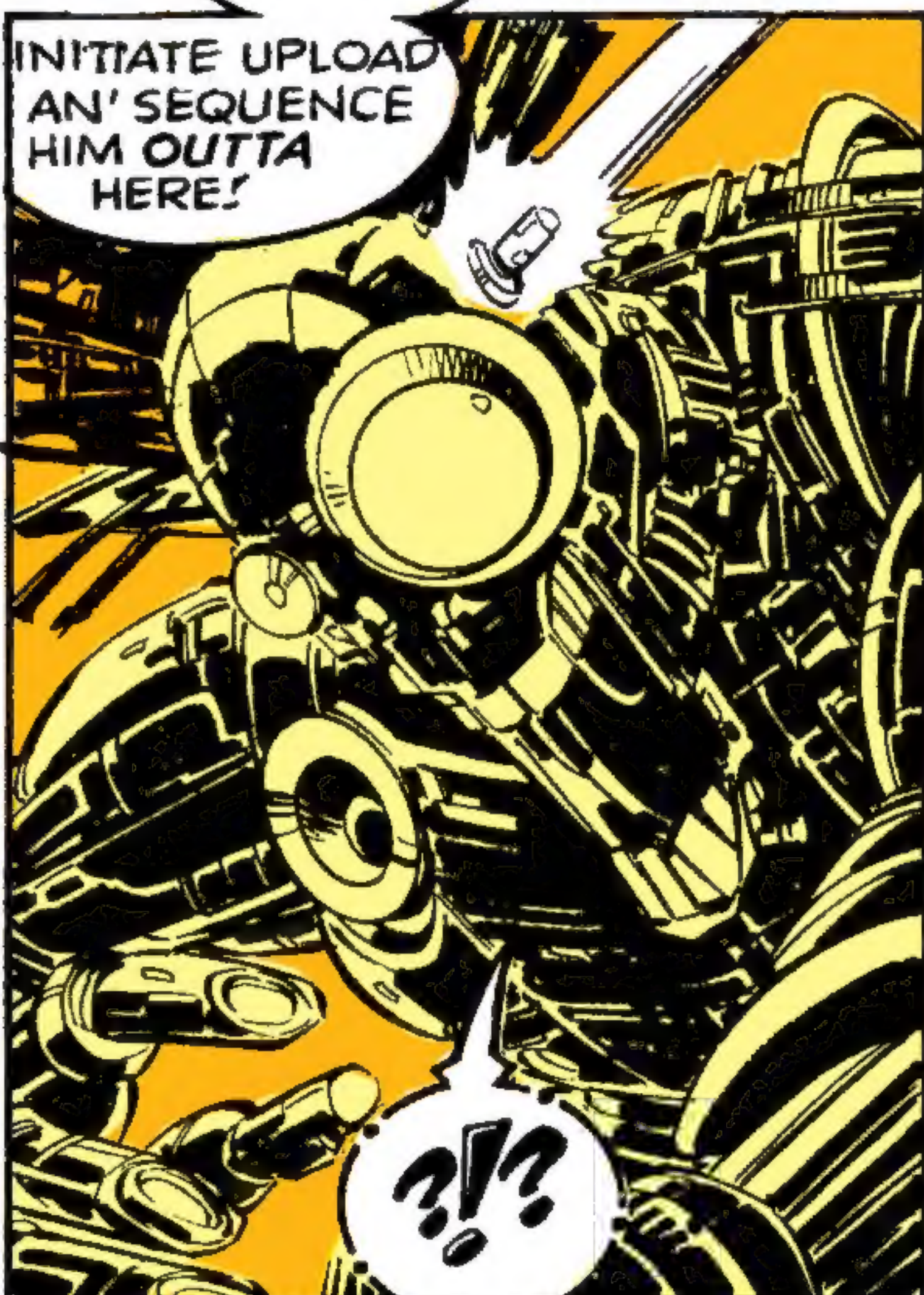
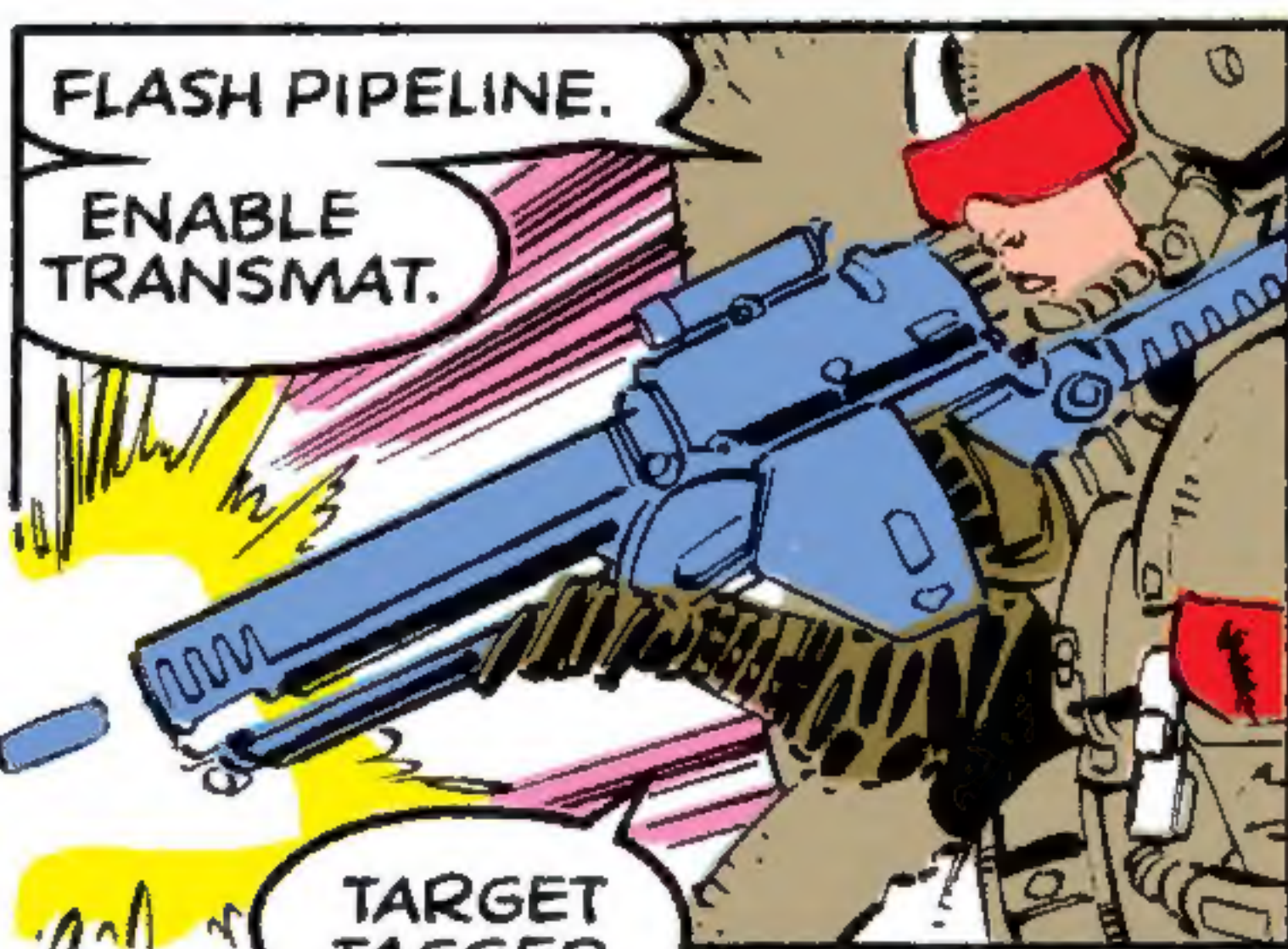
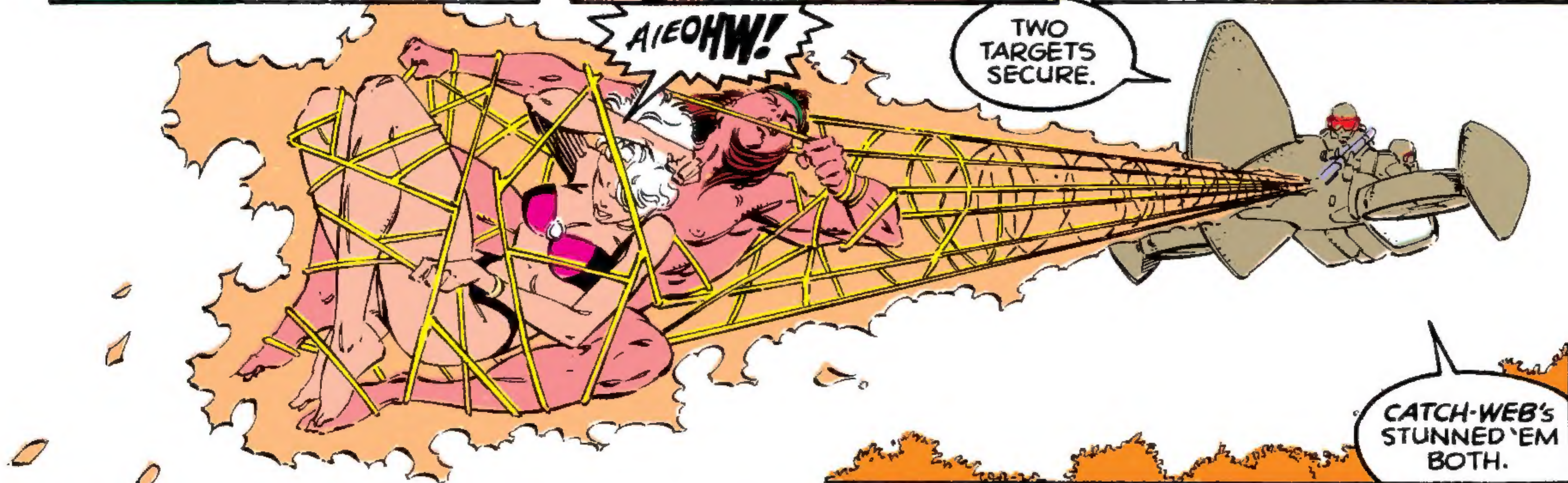
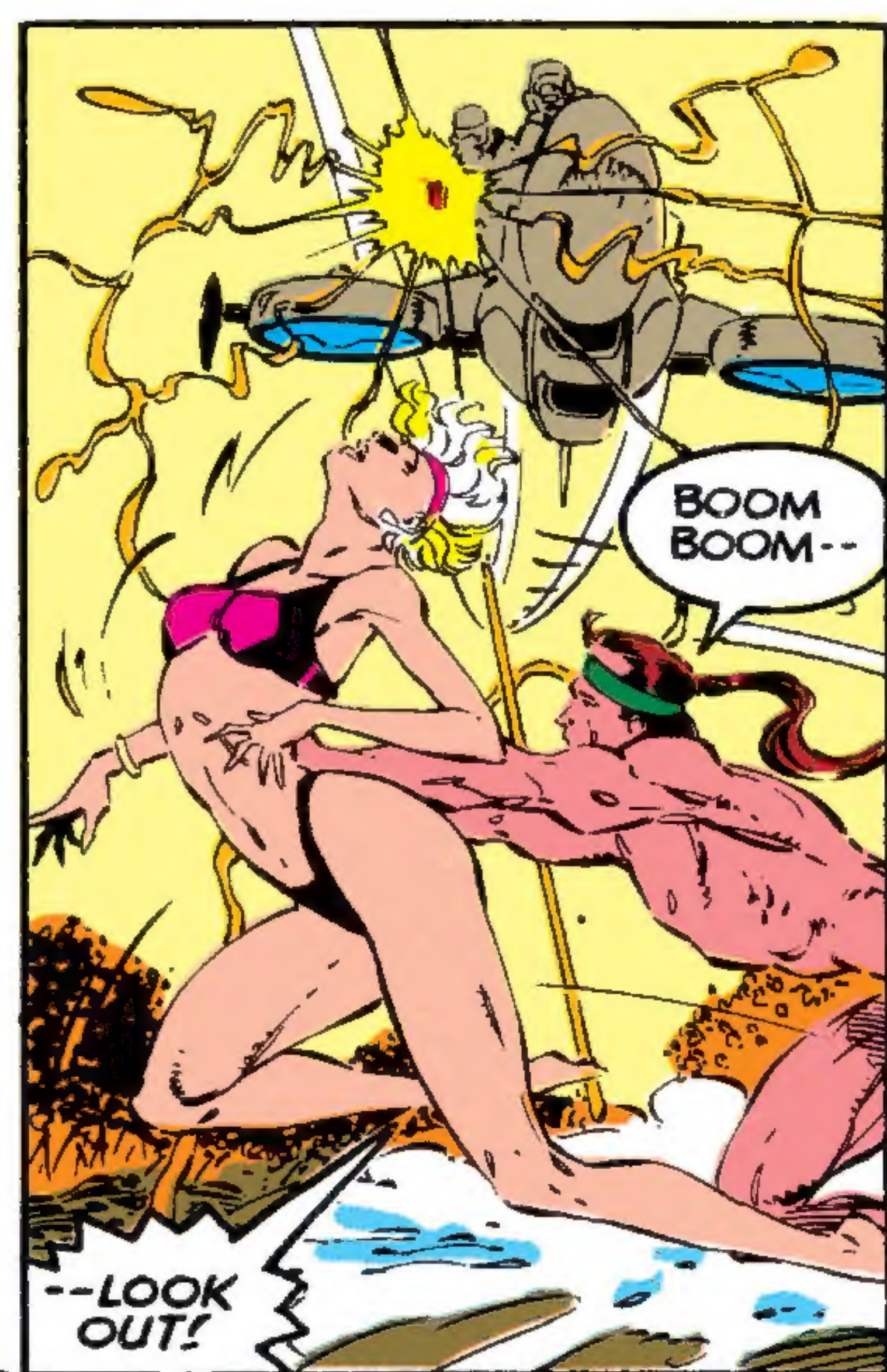
--THE THIRD BIKER--

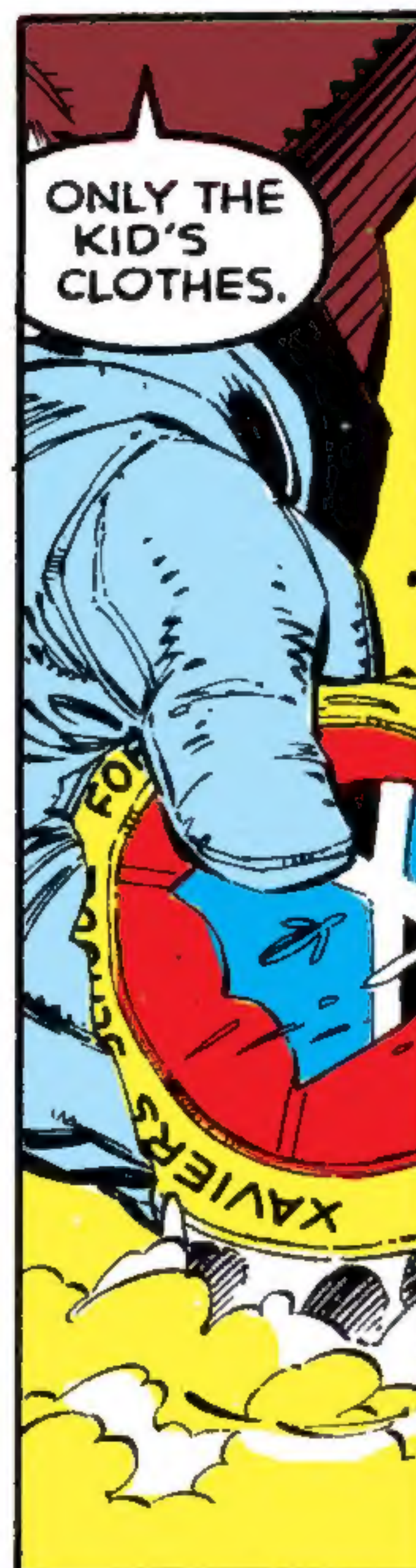
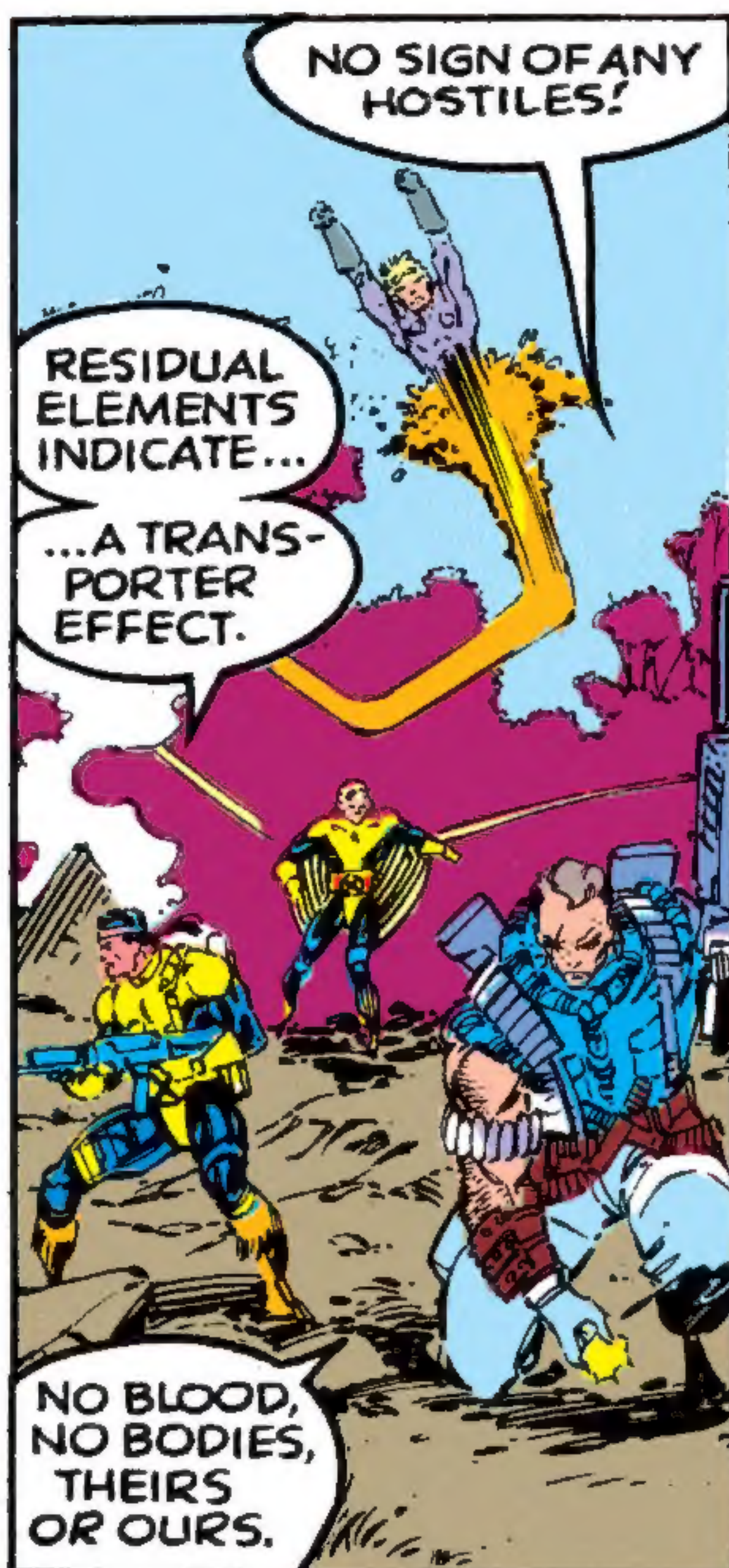
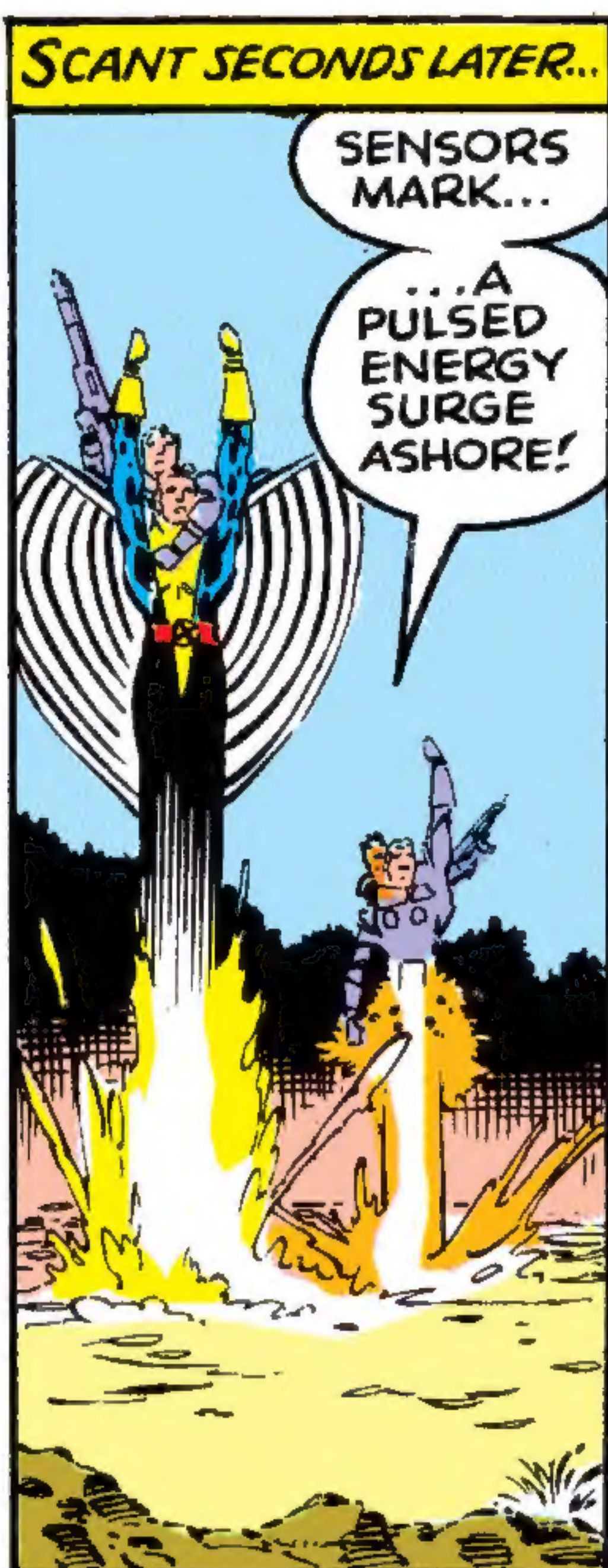
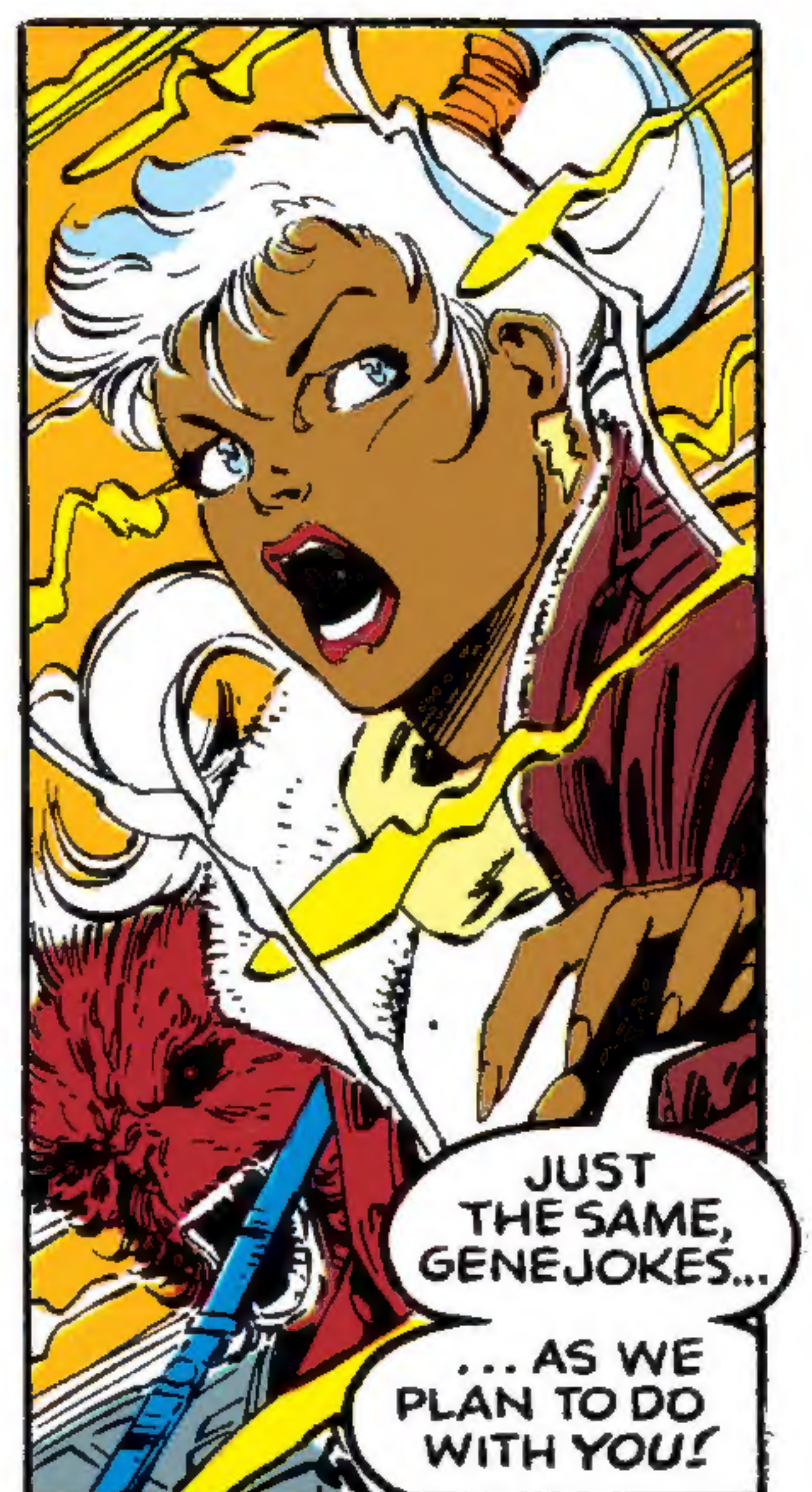
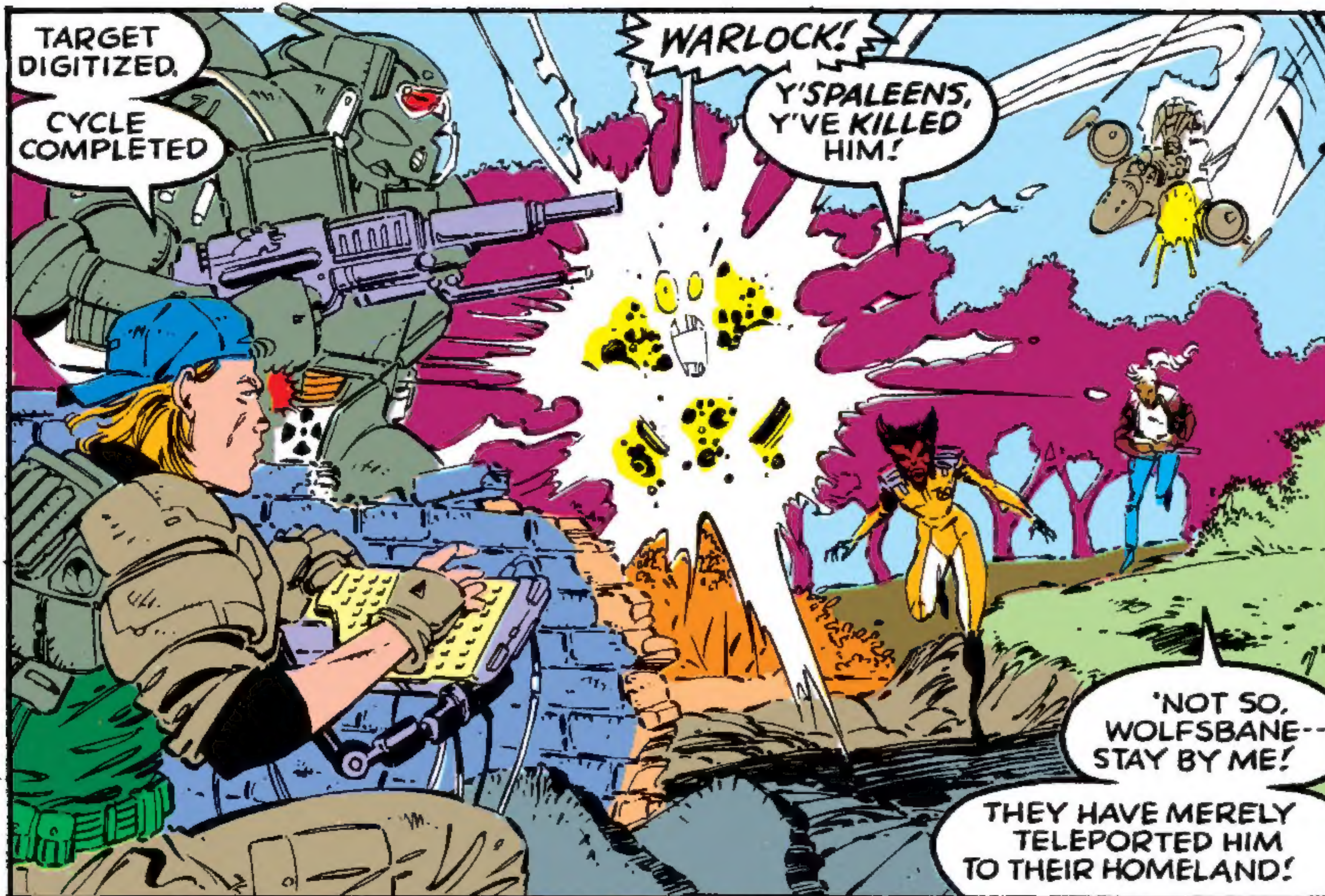
--USING SOME FORM OF SELF-GENERATED ENERGY PLASMA TO BLAST HIS WAY THROUGH!

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE-- HOW CAN IT BE--

--BUT I KNOW THAT POWER SIGNATURE!







NEXT: PART 2 OF THE X-TINCTION AGENDA FOLLOWS IN NEW MUTANTS # 95 **AND, IN 30 DAYS, IN THE X-MEN-- IT'S WOLVIE'S TURN!**